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ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH
OF THE
COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN
FOR THE YEAR 1937.

HENRY WHITEHEAD, M.D., D.P.H. (VICT.), M.B., B.S. (LOND.)
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
CHIEF TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER,
SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER,
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF CORPORATION
HOSPITALS, &C.

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THOS. WALL AND SONS LIMITED, PRINTERS, "OBSERVER" OFFICE,
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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1937.

Medical Officer of Health,
 Superintendent School Medical Officer,
 Administrative Tuberculosis Officer :

HENRY WHITEHEAD, M.D., D.P.H., (Vict.), M.B., B.S. (Lond.)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health,
 Clinical Tuberculosis Officer :

HENRY RICHMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer—Maternity and Child Welfare (part time) :
 (Miss) ISOBEL M. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dentist—Maternity and Child Welfare and Tuberculosis (part time) :
 C. F. L. PURSLOW, L.D.S., R.C.S., Eng.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :
 FREDERICK MARTLEW (a) (b).

Sanitary Inspectors :
 J. ASHTON (a) (b), V. JONES (a) (b), T. MCKNIGHT (a) (b), J. ROUGHAN (a) (b),
 (Died 14th Nov.). W. HIGGINS (a) (b).

Factory, Workshops, and Shops Inspector : E. RICHARDSON (a).

Shops Inspector : R. C. WOODS. (a)(b)

Matron of Sanatoria : MISS L. ROTHWELL, S.R.N., R.F.N.

Lady Health Visitors :
 B. CROMPTON (c)(d), M. L. GOLD (a)(c), M. E. WHEAT (c)(e)(f),
 A. L. G. MARTIN (c)(e)(f), C. W. CAMPBELL (c)(e)(f), E. HANSON
 (c)(e)(f), (from 1st Sept.).

Tuberculosis Nurse : L. WEST (a).

Chief Clerk : A. N. BYERS.

Clerks :
 P. STRAFFORD, J. C. DAVENPORT, F. L. THOMAS.

Tuberculosis Dispensary : A. FAIRHURST.

Maternity and Child Welfare Department : M. MILLER, A. C. BOYD.

Steam Disinfector Attendant : J. RISLEY.

Disinfectors : J. GRIFFITHS, E. SMITH.

Motor Drivers : N. ABBOTT, R. MACKENZIE.

PART-TIME OFFICERS.

Clinical V.D. Officer : HENRY BARDSLEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
 Orthopædic Surgeon : HENRY POSTON, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., M.Ch.
 C. P. BRETNALL M.B., Ch.B., F.C.O.G.
 C. H. WALSH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.C.O.G., (commenced 20th
 September, 1937),

Consultants Ante-Natal Clinic.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1937—Cont'd,

Employed as Consultant Obstetrician for Domiciliary Service and
Consultant, Ante-Natal Clinic :

A. LLOYD POTTER, M.D., M.C.O.G. (until 10th September).

Employed as Consultants and for the Treatment of Puerperal Pyrexia :

J. F. BERRY, M.B., Ch.B. &c. C. L. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B.

Masseuse : MISS L. HEALY.

Public Vaccinators and District Medical Officers :

E. D. PORTMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D. N. MACKINNON, M.B., Ch.B.

Veterinary Surgeon : WILLIAM WOODS, F.R.C.V.S.

Public Analyst : S. ERNEST MELLING, F.I.C.

Vaccination Officers : C. LATCHFORD, S. TURNER, J. BATE.

Supervisor of Midwives : E. M. READING (c)(e)

Municipal Midwives :

E. BARKER (c)	H. E. MAXWELL (c)
E. B. BROOKS (c)	C. MORRIS (c)(e)
M. JONES (c)	M. H. MIDDLEHURST (c)
M. L. LYNCH (c)	M. STANLEY (c)(e)
M. MCGOUGH (c)	J. TRAYNOR (c)
A. MAGEE (c)(e)	E. WILLIAMS (c)(e)

(a) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate

(b) Meat Inspector's Certificate.

(c) Certificate, Central Midwives' Board.

(d) Health Visitor and School Nurse's Certificate

(e) Hospital Trained.

(f) New Health Visitor's Certificate

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
Municipal Buildings,
Library Street,
Wigan.

June, 1938.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Wigan.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Borough, and on the work of the Health Department for the year 1937.

The Birth Rate is lower than in 1936, being 16.27, against 17.23; it is however considerably higher than the average for the whole country.

The General Death Rate was 14.17: it is higher than last year's low rate of 12.78.

The Infant Mortality was 90, a high figure compared with that of the country as a whole.

The Maternal Mortality is low again this year, being 2.81 per thousand births.

The death rate from Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis is slightly up, being .81 per 1,000 of the population against .72 in 1936.

A most important land mark in the development and progress of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services was the establishment of a Municipal Midwifery Service. The scheme is working quite well and details are given on page 79.

Another improvement which has long been necessary is the extensions of the administration block and nursing quarters at Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital.

It is pleasing to note that the long delayed scheme for increasing the accommodation and improving the facilities for general Health Services, including Tuberculosis, Maternity and Child Welfare, School Medical, Dental, Sunlight, X-rays, etc., has been commenced at the time of writing.

Extensions to the nurses' quarters are necessary at Pemberton Hospital for Tuberculosis in order that an adequate staff may be properly housed.

During the year Diphtheria has been more prevalent than in 1936. 331 cases were notified. For the ten years ended 1935, the average per year was only 36. Preventive inoculation is offered free of charge to all children of pre-school and school age., The response, however, has been very disappointing. Other measures for prevention of spread have been continued. See page 52.

Considerable progress has been made with Slum Clearance. During the year 519 dwellings were reported to the Insanitary Houses and Conversions Committee, bringing the total since the Slum Clearance Scheme commenced to 1,259, occupied by 4,783 persons. 696 dwellings have been demolished, parts of 13 buildings closed and 50 other dwellings have ceased to be used for human habitation.

To accommodate the displaced tenants, the Council have erected 344 houses on the Worsley Hall Estate, 362 on the Thicknesse Estate, and are at present erecting another 410 houses included in two schemes on the Worsley Hall Estate.

Again it is a pleasure to offer my thanks to all the members of the staff of the Health Department, including those of the Hospitals for their loyalty and excellent work. More and more work falls upon the staff as years go on, owing to constant legislation and consequent development.

I repeat my thanks to the Chairman of the Health Committee (Alderman T. Ramsden), the Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and Hospitals Committee (Councillor Mrs. Ashurst), and also the Chairman of the Insanitary Houses Committee (Councillor Shaw) for their continued confidence and support, and also to the members of the Health Committee and of the various Committees under whom I serve for their courtesy and consideration.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY WHITEHEAD.

1.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The County Borough of Wigan covers an area of 5,082 acres, and had a population at the 1931 census of 85,357. The Registrar General's estimated population on 1st July, 1937, of 83,190, on which figure statistics in this report are based. A considerable portion of the Borough is used for agricultural purposes. These areas are sparsely populated. The average number of persons per acre varies in the fourteen wards within the Borough from 5 to 105, the average being 16·8. The Borough of Wigan forms a considerable part of the valley of the River Douglas. The river is the boundary on the North side, continues its course to the centre and finally becomes the boundary on the West side. The levels on which the river enters and leaves are respectively 150 and 69 feet. Water is taken from the river for feeding the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, which traverses the town. The maximum elevations are at the extreme North 254 feet and at the South-West 260 feet. The lowest level is at the North-western boundary, which is 69 feet.

Geologically, the whole of the Borough rests on the lower coal measures, or Gannister beds, which are here very superficial, and, in fact, outcrop in several parts of the district. The sub-soil is mainly clay which in places has a depth of nearly twenty feet ; but there is an important layer of sand covering a large part of the centre of the town, and extending northwards in the direction of Standish. In other parts sand is found in "pockets." Much of the western portion, beyond the Park, lies on a fairly extensive gravel bed.

The population is essentially an industrial one, the principal industries being coal, iron, cotton, and the manufacture of clothing.

Number of inhabited houses (1931 Census)	18,573
Number of inhabited houses end of 1937, according to rate books	21,239
Number of families or separate occupiers (1931 Census) ..	20,190
Rateable value (1937)	£411,921
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,606

It is pleasing to state that during recent years there has been a remarkable decrease in drunkenness occurring within the Borough.

Alcoholism, during the six years ending 31st December, 1914, accounted for no less than 23 deaths. During the year 1937 there were no deaths certified as being caused by alcoholism. The yearly average number of prosecutions taken against persons charged with drunkenness during the six years ending 31st December, 1914, was 337, whilst in the six years ending 31st December, 1937, the yearly average number of prosecutions for the same charge had declined to 62.

The local authority possess only one Public Bathing establishment, which is situated in Millgate, Wigan. The accommodation is insufficient for a town with a population of approximately 84,000, especially when it is realised that the great majority of dwelling houses are not provided with a private bath, and when it is remembered that a very large number of the population is engaged in the coal mining industry. It is hoped however, that it may be possible to build another bathing establishment at Pemberton, in the near future.

The following list shows the number of Bathers during the past five years:—

							<i>Total No. of Bathers.</i>
1933	..	..	..	..	..	..	168,303
1934	..	..	..	..	..	..	167,781
1935	..	..	..	..	..	..	142,024
1936	..	..	..	..	..	..	125,264
1937	..	..	..	..	..	..	143,236

The Baths Superintendent, Mr. J. H. Cockrell, has kindly supplied me with the following figures and report:—

SUMMARY OF BATHERS AND PARTICULARS OF THE BOROUGH
BATHING ESTABLISHMENT FOR YEAR ENDED
MARCH 31st, 1938.

Number of Plunge Baths	..	..	..	..	2
„ Private Baths	..	..	..	..	18

BATHERS.

Male Plunge Baths	..	..	..	..	83,739*
„ Private Baths	..	..	..	..	6,202
Female Plunge Baths	..	..	..	..	23,044†
„ Private Baths	..	..	..	..	1,172
Mixed Bathing: Adults	..	..	..	..	5,610
„ Juniors	..	..	..	..	1,982
Contracts, Free Passes, Season Tickets, etc.	..	..	..	..	21,487

Total	143,236
-------	----	----	----	---------

* This number includes 26,795 boys who are charged 1d., and are admitted after 4 p.m. on each week day except Thursday and Saturday.

† This number includes 10,791 girls who are charged 1d., and are admitted after 4 p.m., on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays, during the summer season.

The above figures show an increase as compared with the previous year, due to the exceptionally dry weather experienced during the past year.

Periodic Analytical and Bacteriological tests have been taken by the Medical Officer of Health and the results have shown that the Purification Plant is functioning satisfactorily.

The tests rigidly conform with the standards required by the Ministry of Health.

In addition to the above, tests are taken three times a day by the Bath Superintendent to determine the residual Chlorine and Alkali content of the water.

It is compulsory for patrons using the swimming bath to pre-cleanse in the shower bath before entering the pool. Automatic hair-dryers have been installed in the Ladies' Plunge Bath and have proved to be very popular.

The amended plans of the proposed Pemberton Baths have been submitted to the Grants Area Committee, and it is hoped that the Committee will give every consideration to the scheme.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

The Clerk to the Public Assistance Committee has kindly supplied me with the following information :—

<i>Borough of Wigan.</i>					
<i>Year ending.</i>	<i>Average No. of families receiving relief.</i>				<i>Amount paid in relief.</i>
					<i>£</i>
31st March, 1934	1501	..	43,497
31st March, 1935	1688	..	51,621
31st March, 1936	1851	..	58,728
31st March, 1937	1848	..	58,240
31st March, 1938	1657	..	50,549

The Institutions provided are the Frog Lane Institution, for able bodied persons, also a number of old and infirm persons and children under three, which has 268 beds; the Billinge Hospital, Billinge, 369 beds. These institutions receive inmates from the whole of the old Wigan Union, which includes part of the County Area.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

Mr. A. Clarke, the Clerk to the National Health Insurance Committee for the Borough, has kindly supplied me with the following information, with respect to treatment under the National Health Insurance Scheme.

	1933. 1st Jan.	1934. 1st Jan.	1935. 1st Jan.	1936. 1st Jan.	1937. 1st Jan.
Number of insured persons in Wigan, according to counts of Insurance Committee's Register..	38389	37150	35400	36294	36716
Number of prescriptions issued by doctors ..	176589	157059	169660	178810	189058
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total cost of prescriptions issued	5576 11 0	4932 15 11	5388 7 8	5728 8 7	6097 11 1
Average cost per prescription issued.. ..	7·58d.	7·54d.	7·62d.	7·69d..	7·74d.

2.—VITAL STATISTICS, 1936—1937.

	1936.	1937.
Population estimated July 1st	83,820	83,190
<i>Births</i> —Males 689 } Total	1,445	1,354
Females 665 }		
Annual rate of births per 1,000 on Registrar General's estimated population.	17.23	16.27
Ditto for England and Wales	14.8	14.9
Ditto, 125 County Boroughs and great towns	14.9	14.9
Illegitimate births number 41 or .49 per 1,000 of population, a percentage of	2.56	3.02
<i>Deaths</i> —Males 630 } Total	1,072	1,179
Females 549 }		
Corrected Death-rate, on Registrar General's estimated population	12.78	14.17
Ditto in England and Wales	12.1	12.4
Death-rate in 125 County Boroughs and great towns	12.3	12.5
Excess of registered births over deaths	373	175
Maternal Death-rate	2.62	2.81
Total deaths from seven principal Zymotic Diseases	36	37
Annual rate of mortality from seven principal Zymotic Diseases .. .. .	.42	.44
Total deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years	4	10
Death-rate (per 1,000 births) from Diarrhoea and Enteritis	2.7	7.3
Infantile-rate (deaths per 1,000 births)	82	90
Ditto for England and Wales	59	58
Ditto for 125 County Boroughs and great towns	63	62
Deaths of infants under 1 day old (number)	26	21
Ditto 1 year (legitimate)	117	117
Ditto 1 year (illegitimate)	2	5

Births.—The number of births registered during 1937 is 1354, (males 689, females 665), the rate per 1,000 of the population being 16.27. The birth-rate compared with 1936 is .96 lower. The illegitimate births number 41 or 3.02 per cent.

Stillbirths.—The following shows the number of stillbirths registered during the year 1937 :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	35	34	69
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	35	34	69

The Mortality-rate.—The deaths for 1937 number 1,179 (males 630, females 549), being an excess of 81 males over females. The recorded rate per 1,000 of the population per annum is 14.17; in 1936 12.78. The increase in the number of deaths as compared with 1936 was 107—and the rate 1.28 per 1,000.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.	
<i>Births</i> —(Legitimate) ..	1313	672	641	{ Birth rate per 1,000 population, 16·27
(Illegitimate) ..	41	17	24	
	<hr/> 1,354	<hr/> 689	<hr/> 665	
	Total.	M.	F.	
<i>Deaths</i> —	1,179	630	549	{ Death-rate per 1,000 population, 14·17.
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth .. ..	..	..	..	{ from sepsis .. — from other causes.. 4
Mortality of women in, or associated with child-birth, per 1,000 births (live and still):—				
Puerperal Sepsis .. ..	..	..	..	—
Other Puerperal causes .. ..	..	..	..	2·81
				<hr/>
Total Puerperal mortality .. ..	..	..	..	2·81
Non Puerperal causes .. ..	..	..	..	—
Total Maternal Mortality .. ..	..	..	..	2·81
Infant-Mortality rate under one year of age per 1,000 births:—				
Legitimate 89 Illegitimate 121 Total 90				
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .. ..	..	..	..	4
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) .. ..	..	..	..	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under two years of age) .. ..	..	..	..	10

INQUESTS AND UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

The number of Inquests held in Wigan during 1937 was 66, against 62 for 1936, and 79 for 1935, and the following verdicts have been recorded:—

1.	Natural Causes	1
2.	Accidents—burnt	—
	„ scalded	3
	„ colliery	8
	„ drowned	2
	„ falls.. ..	5
	„ railway	1
	„ falls downstairs	1
	„ knocked down.. ..	10
	„ others	12
3.	Suicides—hanging	4
	„ cut throat	3
	„ gas	6
	„ railway	1
	„ poison	—
	„ others	—
4.	Others	9
5	Murder	—
		<hr/> 66

There were two uncertified deaths in 1937, against none in 1936, and 1 in 1935.

TABLE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1937 IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF

Causes of Deaths.	Deaths at the sub-joined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.												
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 3.	3 and under 4.	4 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and over
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	4	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	22	..	..	1	1	4	15	1	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza	42	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	1	4	6	15	12
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	21	14	12	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	14	..	4	1	..	..	2	2	..	2	2	1	..
Syphilis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Cancer, Malignant Disease..	127	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	12	76	36
Diabetes	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	11	8
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ..	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	30	46
Heart Disease	217	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	4	9	8	67	126
Aneurysm	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Other Circulatory Diseases..	49	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	35
Bronchitis	95	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	30	53
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	101	24	6	3	6	..	2	3	..	10	8	20	19
Other Respiratory Diseases	10	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	4
Peptic Ulcer	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	9	..
Diarrhoea &c.	10	9	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Appendicitis.. ..	10	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	2	2	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases ..	12	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	4	3
Acute and Chronic Nephritis.	27	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	12	11
Puerperal Sepsis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Puerperal causes ..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc... ..	75	75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Senility	82	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82
Suicide	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	9	3
Other Violence	31	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	2	5	9	10
Other defined causes ..	47	3	2	..	1	..	2	1	1	8	5	12	12
Causes ill-defined or unknown	6	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	2
TOTALS	1179	122	15	7	11	6	26	12	16	78	78	340	468

WIGAN, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES AND LOCALITIES.

Deaths at all Ages.

St. George Ward. 1	Lindsay Ward. 2	St. Catharine Ward. 3	St. Patrick Ward. 4	St. Thomas Ward. 5	Poolstock Ward. 6	Victoria Ward. 7	St. Andrew Ward. 8	Swinley Ward. 9	All Saints Ward. 10	West Pem- berton Ward. 11	North Pem- berton Ward. 12	Central Pem- berton Ward. 13	South Pem- berton Ward. 14	Total Deaths.
..
..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	4
..
..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
3	1	4	4	1	1	..	4	..	..	1	1	..	2	22
2	2	1	3	1	3	1	10	7	4	2	4	1	1	42
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
..
3	3	2	14	2	4	2	10	4	3	1	2	3	..	53
1	1	1	..	2	..	1	1	3	..	..	1	1	2	14
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
2	13	10	11	3	3	9	21	17	6	2	10	12	8	127
1	3	1	1	..	..	3	2	3	..	1	1	1	4	21
2	..	7	12	3	5	5	14	7	3	2	7	7	5	79
8	11	18	22	18	19	3	26	26	8	7	15	21	15	217
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
..	6	6	3	2	2	2	11	6	2	..	2	6	1	49
9	7	10	11	7	2	1	18	5	4	3	4	8	6	95
5	8	6	14	9	5	7	15	5	3	1	9	7	7	101
..	..	..	1	..	2	1	1	3	..	..	1	1	..	10
3	..	1	2	..	..	1	5	..	..	..	..	2	..	14
2	..	..	..	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	10
2	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	2	10
..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
1	1	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	4	..	12
1	5	4	1	1	..	2	3	4	1	1	2	2	..	27
..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	4
4	6	2	12	4	2	2	16	5	1	6	6	6	3	75
3	4	8	2	3	6	6	15	7	5	2	11	6	4	82
..	..	1	1	..	..	..	7	1	..	..	1	5	1	17
..	2	2	4	..	4	2	4	1	1	..	5	4	2	31
1	3	2	6	5	3	1	14	5	..	1	3	3	..	47
..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	6
53	79	86	125	67	64	53	203	113	42	36	88	104	67	1179

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1937 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

Year.	Pop'tion estimated to middle of each year. 2	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un- corrected number. 3	Nett.		Number. 6	Rate. 7	of Non- residents registered in the District. 8	of Resi- dents not registered in the District. 9	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
			Number. 4	Rate. 5					Number.	Rate per 1,000 nett births. 11	Number.	Rate.
1									10	11	12	13
1933..	85,150	1,411	1,415	16.61	1,136	13.46	142	227	155	109	1,221	14.34
1934..	84,750	1,467	1,477	17.42	1,002	11.69	143	192	99	67	1,051	12.40
1935..	84,500	1,438	1,425	16.86	1,107	13.10	141	201	139	97	1,167	13.81
1936..	83,820	1,442	1,445	17.23	1,002	11.95	149	219	119	82	1,072	12.78
1937..	83,190	1,371	1,354	16.27	1,107	13.30	169	241	122	90	1,179	14.17

The death-rate for each quarter is as follows :—

1937	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
All Causes ..	19·03	11·90	11·38	13·54
Zymotics ..	·27	·37	·51	·51

The Zymotic-rate, ·44 is ·02 higher than in 1936.

DEATH RATES, 1937.

Disease.	No. of Deaths.	Rate.
Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
Measles	4	·05
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	·01
Diphtheria	22	·26
Influenza	42	·50
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	·01
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	53	·64
Other Tuberculous Diseases.. .. .	14	·17
Syphilis	1	·01
General paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	1	·01
Cancer, Malignant Disease	127	1·53
Diabetes	21	·25
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	79	·95
Heart Disease	217	2·61
Aneurysm	1	·01
Other Circulatory Diseases	49	·59
Bronchitis	95	1·14
Pneumonia (all forms)	101	1·21
Other Respiratory Diseases	10	·12
Peptic Ulcer	14	·17
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	10	·12
Appendicitis	10	·12
Cirrhosis of Liver	3	·04
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	2	·02
Other Digestive Diseases	12	·14
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	27	·32
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Puerperal causes	4	·05
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc... .. .	75	·90
Senility	82	·99
Suicide	17	·20
Other Violence	31	·37
Other defined causes	47	·56
Causes ill-defined or unknown	6	·07
Total	1,179	14·17

DEATH-RATES FOR WIGAN DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS.

1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
12·62	15·01	13·24	14·02	13·34	14·34	12·40	13·81	12·78	14·17

AVERAGE FOR TEN YEARS, 13·57

NUMBER OF DEATHS IN DIFFERENT WARDS IN WIGAN, 1937.

Ward.	Ward No.	Census Population.	Death Totals.	Death Rate.
St. George	1	4,281	53	12·38
Lindsay	2	5,222	79	15·12
St. Catharine	3	6,929	86	12·41
St. Patrick	4	8,571	125	14·58
St. Thomas	5	4,183	67	16·01
Poolstock	6	4,775	64	13·40
Victoria	7	4,745	53	11·16
St. Andrew	8	14,085	203	14·41
Swinley	9	7,880	113	14·34
All Saints	10	2,750	42	15·27
West Pemberton	11	3,740	36	9·62
North Pemberton	12	6,605	88	13·32
Central Pemberton	13	6,129	104	16·96
South Pemberton	14	5,462	67	12·26
Totals .. ..	..	85,357	1,179	*14·17

*Death Rate is based on the Registrar General's estimated Population of 83,190

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The Mortality from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, namely: Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, and Diarrhoea, gives us a rate of ·44 per 1,000 of the population, against ·42 in 1936.

The deaths numbered 37 as against 36 in 1936.

The Zymotic-rate, .44, is made up as follows:—

DEATH-RATES PER 1,000:—

	1936	1937
Small-pox	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	Nil.	Nil.
Measles	·01	·05
Whooping Cough	·21	·01
Diarrhoea	·05	·12
Enteric Fever	Nil.	Nil.
Diphtheria	·16	·26

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES FOR THE
PAST FIVE YEARS.

	Deaths.	Death Rate.
1933	32	·38
1934	10	·11
1935	66	·78
1936	36	·42
1937	37	·44

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS SINCE YEAR 1876.

Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death. Rate.	Infant Mortality.
1876	48·9	28·5	4·92	186
1886	38·7	22·1	3·1	174
1896	35·9	23·09	4·09	186
1906	32·6	17·61	2·61	160
1916	23·28	15·42	1·04	113
1926	20·03	13·13	·30	103
1937	16·27	14·17	·44	90

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH, 1937.

CAUSES.	Sex.	All Ages.	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
ALL CAUSES.	M.	635	75	12	9	22	22	22	47	73	124	131	98
	F.	551	50	5	13	17	20	31	32	54	90	134	105
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Measles	M.	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	3	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ..	M.	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	M.	7	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	15	—	—	4	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Influenza	M.	23	—	—	2	1	1	2	4	4	4	2	3
	F.	19	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	2	5	4	2
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	M.	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	M.	31	—	—	—	—	7	5	8	9	2	—	—
	F.	22	—	—	—	—	10	4	6	1	—	1	—
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	M.	8	—	4	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
	F.	5	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
11. Syphilis	M.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane. Tabes Dorsalis	M.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	M.	60	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	8	29	12	3
	F.	69	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	21	18	14	9
14. Diabetes	M.	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	—
	F.	13	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	4	4	—
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, Etc.	M.	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	12	8	8
	F.	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	9	22	6
16. Heart Disease ..	M.	122	1	—	—	2	3	1	6	12	22	49	26
	F.	101	—	—	—	—	2	4	4	9	20	37	25
17. Aneurysm	M.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	M.	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	10	8
	F.	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	9	8

**REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES
OF DEATH, 1937—Continued.**

[illegible]

3.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Professional Nursing in the Home.—The Wigan Branch of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses commenced activities in February, 1929. To commence with, the Staff consisted of two Nurses. The Staff now consists of a Superintendent and six Nurses.

Midwives.—There were 38 midwives practising in the district on 1st January, 1937.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—The following Clinics and Treatment Centres are provided by the Corporation :—

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Maternity and Child Welfare
Centre, Municipal Build-
ings, Library Street,
Wigan. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 2 to 4-30. Special Ante-Natal Clinic held second Friday in the month at 2 o'clock. Schools for mothers Wednesday afternoons. The Dentist attends on Tuesday afternoons for examination and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and infants. |
| | Ante-Natal Clinic, 2 to 4-30 p.m. each Tuesday and Special Clinic second Friday in each month at 2 o'clock. |
| 2. Maternity and Child Welfare
Centre, Billinge Road,
Pemberton. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Friday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers on Thursday afternoons. |
| | Ante-Natal Clinic, alternate Friday afternoons at 2 o'clock. |
| 3. Maternity and Child Welfare
Centre, Jackson's Square
Scholes. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Monday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers held on Tuesday afternoons. |

- | | |
|---|--|
| 4. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wesleyan Chapel, Worsley Mesnes. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers also held on Monday afternoons. |
| 5. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, St. Andrew's Mission Room, Woodhouse Lane. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers held on Wednesday afternoons. |
| 6. School Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan (See No. 1). | For minor ailments. A dentist is in attendance three mornings each week for inspection and treatment of school children. |
| 7. Orthopædic Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan. | For treatment of crippling defects
Open each Monday morning
Surgeon attends twice monthly
Cases from Ince and Hindley also attend. |
| 8. Tuberculosis Clinic, 14, Rodney Street, Wigan. | Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings and Friday evenings, as required. A dentist is in attendance on Wednesday mornings for the inspection and treatment of tuberculous persons.

Orthopædic clinic held each Wednesday afternoon when there is a masseuse in attendance. Surgeon attends on Saturday morning once every two months. |
| 9. Radium treatment of Cancer. The Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre. | A Special Clinic is held at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary for inspection and advice only. Treatment is carried out at Manchester. |
| 10. Artificial Light Clinic, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary | For treatment of suitable cases, by arrangement. |
| 11. Venereal Disease Clinic, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan. | Open Tuesdays and Fridays, 4 to 7 for males only, and from 4 to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays for females and children. "Irrigations" by arrangement. "Inpatient" treatment is also available. |

Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by the Local Authority.—The following hospitals are provided by the Local Authority:—

Pemberton Hospital.

For treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, 28 beds, four of which are reserved for the Lancashire County Council.

Whelley Sanatorium.

For Infectious Diseases (other than smallpox and venereal diseases), 76 beds.

Billinge Infirmary, Billinge.

For medical, maternity and mental cases. 369 beds. There is no resident medical officer. Under the control of the Public Assistance Committee.

Frog Lane Institution.

268 beds are available chiefly for able bodied people. There is also a ward for infectious diseases. There is no resident medical officer. Under the control of the Public Assistance Committee.

The following hospitals and institutions are subsidised by the Local Authority, either by way of (a) an annual grant, or (b) payment for beds reserved for cases sent by this Authority.

Sankey Small Pox Hospital
Near Warrington.

For treatment of smallpox. Payment of £230 per annum.

Leasowe Hospital.

Four beds reserved for treatment of surgical tuberculosis. 41/- per bed, per week.

Other Hospitals Available for the District:—

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary,
Wigan.

General Hospital. 180 beds. Replete with massage, electrical, orthopaedic, artificial sunlight, and X-ray Departments and pathological laboratory. A certain number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis are treated there, for which payment is made by this Authority. Cases requiring treatment under the Corporation's scheme for dealing with Puerperal Pyrexia are also treated there.

The Christopher Private Patients
Home.

30 beds for Surgical and Medical cases.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers:—

St. Margaret's Home, Goose Green,
Wigan.

Supported by charities and donations. Grant made by the Local Authority. Accommodation for babies and girls.

Ambulance Facilities :—

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a). For Infectious Cases. | One motor ambulance is owned by the Health Department. In addition the motor vehicle used for disinfection purposes can also be used as an ambulance. |
| (b). For Non-infectious Cases and Accidents. | Three motor ambulances used for accidents, etc., and one motor vehicle used either as an ambulance or prison van, owned by Local Authority. One ambulance owned by the Public Assistance Department, and one saloon car used for transporting mental cases. |

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

On 1st January, 1937, there were two nursing homes and two maternity homes registered.

No action with respect to registration of maternity and nursing homes has been necessary during the year.

COST OF HEALTH SERVICES.

The gross cost of services controlled by the Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees for the year ending 31st March, 1937, was £29,256. This is a slight increase compared with £28,736 for the previous year.

HOSPITAL ACCOM-

<i>Hospital.</i>	<i>Situation.</i>	<i>Management.</i>	<i>Type of Case.</i>
Billinge Infirmary.	Billinge.	Public Assist- ance Com- mittee, County Borough of Wigan.	Mental. Medical Tuberculosis Maternity
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.	Wigan Lane, Wigan.	Infirmary Board.	Surgical Medical Venereal Diseases Miscellaneous Eye Cases Side Wards Casualty.
Whelley Hospital.	Bradshaw Street, Wigan.	Hospitals Sub- mittee, County Borough of Wigan.	Infectious Diseases.
Pemberton Hospital. *	Billinge Road, Pemberton, Wigan.	Hospitals Sub- Committee, County Borough of Wigan.	Tuberculosis.
Institutions out- side Wigan.	Various.		Tuberculosis.
Biddulph Hospital.	Biddulph.	Lancashire County Council.	Orthopædic

* 4 beds (2 for male and 2 for female cases) reserved

MODATION PROVIDED.

Allocation of Beds.				Occupied during 1937.				Staff.
M.	F.	C.	Total.	M.	F.	C.	Total.	
54	55	—	109	47	53	—	100	1 Medical Officer, Part-time ; 1 Deputy Medical Officer, Matron. [Part-time. Assistant Matron and Home Sister. 6 Sisters, 1 Charge-nurse. 39 Assistant Nurses. 13 Male Nurses.
104	121	12	237	86	99	16	201	
11	5	—	16	1	1	—	2	
—	7	—	7	—	7	—	7	
			369			x	310	
69	37	—	106	—	—	—	—	
16	16	3	35	—	—	—	—	
3 M.	or F.	1	4	—	—	—	—	
—	—	26	26	—	—	—	—	
—	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	
—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	
—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	
			180					
—	—	—	76	—	—	—	44	Medical Officer of Health is Medical Superintendent. Matron. 3 Sisters. 14 Probationer Nurses.
Ministry's standard			44					
13	15	—	28	13	15	—	28	The Chief Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Superintendent. The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Officer. Matron of Infectious Diseases Hospital also Matron of Pem- berton Hospital. Sister-in-charge. 2 Charge-nurses. 3 Probationer Nurses.
—	—	—	35	13	9	12	34	
—	—	7	7	—	—	6	6	

for patients from the Lancashire County Council Area.

(x) as occupied on 31st December.

4.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Borough is supplied with water for domestic and trade purposes from the Arley, Worthington and Pemberton Reservoirs, which have a total capacity of 278,000,000 gallons. In addition, approximately 70,000,000 gallons of water is pumped each year from Nicholson's Pit, Winstanley, and a further supply is obtained from the Bispham Shaft, Billinge. The Corporation also own reservoirs at Adlington, Pemberton, and Whitley, which are used only for compensation and trade purposes. The gathering grounds from which the greater part of the water is obtained is agricultural land. A complete survey of these gathering grounds was made by the Chief Sanitary Inspector during the year 1922, and later the Medical Officer of Health visited all places where pollutions were discovered, and reported on these to the Water Committee. The sources of the most serious pollutions have in the main been dealt with. Privy middens in rural districts have been converted to pail closets; many cesspools have been constructed, and are emptied at the expense of the Wigan Corporation. Drains which discharged into the tributaries of the main stream have been diverted into cesspools or septic tanks, and fences have been erected to protect the water from casual personal pollution. The gathering grounds from which the water is obtained are not owned by the Borough of Wigan, and from time to time difficulties will certainly arise with respect to keeping the water reasonably pure. In consequence, the Medical Officer of Health recommended that chlorination plants should be erected at each waterworks, and to-day four chlorination plants are in operation; one at Boar's Head Pumping Station to deal with water from Worthington Reservoir subsequent to gravity filtration, two at Edgewood to deal with the supply from Pemberton Reservoirs after filtration either by pressure or gravity filters, and one at Bispham to deal with water from the Bispham Shaft, or from Nicholson's Pit.

No water is therefore used which is not first chlorinated. Enough chlorine is added to give a residual of .1 parts per million, and constant tests are made to ensure this. The Water Committee have sanctioned the purchase of a suitable instrument which will continuously record on a chart the amount of chloring added. In addition, samples of the various supplies are taken each month and sent away for chemical analyses and bacteriological investigation, and a constant check on the purity of the water both before and after treatment is kept.

Apart from the local water supplies outlined above the Corporation obtain daily a further supply of 500,000 gallons per day from the Thirlmere Aqueduct of the Manchester Corporation, which quantity can be increased under agreement with the Manchester Corporation by a temporary supply of 350,000 gallons per day, if required.

There are approximately 20,000 dwellings within the Borough and with one or two exceptions, each one has its own supply of town's water. The total quantity of water supplied for domestic purposes is approximately 1,678,000 gallons per day, and with the exception of the drought years of 1929-1930, and 1933-1934 when restrictions in certain parts of the Borough had to be put into operation, no difficulty has been experienced in affording a constant supply. Furthermore, the improvements recently carried out in the water distribution system have removed some of the difficulties which entailed the restriction of the supply during the drought years, and it is expected that in the event of a drought in the future these improvements will lessen the necessity of further restriction.

A few dwellings situate near the boundary of the Borough on the south side are supplied with water obtained from Billinge U.D.C.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Douglas and the streams running into it are the natural means of draining the Borough.

The River is badly polluted before entering the Borough and a certain amount of pollution occurs within. The Goose Green Sewerage Scheme has now been completed and the pollution which was occurring from that part of the Borough will, as a result of this scheme, cease.

The River Douglas is under the control of the Douglas Catchment Board who are carrying out a considerable amount of work in the dredging and straightening of the river, the result of which will be to give a better self-cleansing velocity to the river.

This authority also cleans the river, removes sludge, etc., from the bed as is required.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE, SCAVENGING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Practically the whole of the Borough is sewered and drained.

The sewage is conducted from the town by two main outfall sewers 27 inches and 36 inches diameter, to the Sewage Disposal Works at Hoscar, which are seven miles distant. Before leaving the town the sewage passes through two detritus tanks and also through coarse and fine screens, and at this point the storm water is diverted from the outfall sewers and is conveyed to the storm water treatment works at Pemberton.

Aluminoferrie and lime are added to the sewage at Hoscar which then passes through Preliminary and Secondary Settling Tanks and a battery of circular revolving percolating filters. The effluent from the filters before it is discharged to the River Douglas is passed through humus tanks.

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer, Mr. James Dove, A.M.Inst.C.E., for the following figures :—

During the year 1937 the following amounts of sewage have been treated at the Hoscar Moss and Pemberton Sewage Works :—

Pemberton Storm Water Works	207	million gallons.
Hoscar Bacteria Beds	1034	„
Hoscar Drainage Areas	182	„
Total Sewage Treated	1424	„
Total Solids, Detritus Tanks and Screen Chambers, Pemberton	3,093	tons.
Total Dried Sludge Recovered	2,712	„
Daily Average Dried Sludge Recovered ..	7.4	„
Weight of Dry Sludge per Million Gallons of Sewage	1.9	„
Rainfall for year	29.16	inches.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Mr. Smith, the Cleansing Superintendent, has supplied the following particulars :—

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.—The collection of Dry House Refuse and Trade Refuse is carried out by both Horse and Mechanical Transport, working as separate units, and by the Pagefield Container System, and the percentage of refuse collected by each system is as follows :—

Horse	44	per cent.
Pagefield Container	29	„
Mechanical Vehicles	27	„

89 per cent. of the refuse collected is disposed of by tipping.

NIGHTSOIL AND PAIL REFUSE.—This refuse (1026 tons) is disposed of direct to farmers as manure. All pails are washed and disinfected after each collection.

TRADE REFUSE.—No fixed charges are made for the removal of this refuse, the shops and business premises in the town centre have a daily collection.

GULLEY CLEANSING.—During the year 25,509 gullies were emptied.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.—The following conveniences and urinals are maintained and cleansed by the department :—

5 Public Conveniences for Ladies and Gents., with attendants.
29 Public Urinals.

All urinals are cleansed and inspected twice per day, including Sundays.

GENERAL.—The new Depot in Frog Lane is nearing completion, and should be ready for running within a month or two.

The quantity of refuse dealt with by destructors during the year 1937 was 3,083 tons, and the quantity of refuse tipped was 25,423 tons. The Corporation have certain powers which require the owners or occupiers of property to provide, under certain conditions, receptacles of an approved pattern for refuse and already 20,940 ashbins have been provided.

166,920,000 square yards of streets have been swept during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

A general scheme for the conversion of pail closets and privy middens has been in progress in the Borough since March, 1923, with a view to placing all closet accommodation on the water carriage system.

On March 31st, 1923, the number of water closets in the Borough was 8,234 waste water closets 945, pail closets 7,081, privy middens 1,563. On December 31st, 1937, the estimated number of water closets in the Borough was 25,164, waste water closets 209, pail closets 141, privy middens, 58. The actual number of pail and privy closets which were converted to the water carriage system during the period April 1st, 1923, to December 31st, 1937, was 9,200, and during the same period 180 pail and privy closets were abolished, the total number dealt with being 9,380. 1,181 additional water closets were provided for premises at which the closet accommodation was deemed to be insufficient.

The majority of the pail closets and privy middens are at unfit houses or premises which are not connected to sewers.

The Local Authority commenced a scheme for the conversion of the waste water closets to water closets with proper flushing apparatus. This was inaugurated on April 1st, 1926, and since that date 736 closets have been converted. 65 of these were converted during the year 1937.

*NOTE.—The number of privy closets connected to one privy midden varies from one to six, the average being approximately two.

CONVERSION OF PAIL CLOSETS AND PRIVY MIDDENS.

The scheme for the conversion of pail closets and privy middens is now almost completed. The majority of the closets which have not been converted are in districts in which sewers are not available. A number also exist at premises which are deemed to be insanitary or are within an insanitary area.

During the year 1937, 344 visits have been made by Inspectors; 1 pail closet and 58 privy closets have been converted and one abolished. In addition, 17 additional water closets have been provided. The estimated total number of water closets erected in connection with the scheme since January 1st, 1923, is 10,381.

Year.	Notices Served for Conversion of		Total.	Conversions carried out.		Abolished.		Total. dealt with.	Notices Served under Section 36, Public Health Act.	
	Pail Closets.	Privy Closets.		Pail Closets.	Privy Closets.	Pail Closets.	Privy Closets.		Closets to be provided.	No. of Closets provided.
1923	2207	565	450	1	-	1016	106	76
1924	3338	1908	1138	59	21	3126	230	152
1925	3347	2640	573	44	2	3259	675	473
1926	327	1001	320	26	5	1352	53	293
1927..	20	203	29	12	-	244	9	90
1928..	23	63	40	2	3	108	19	26
1929..	2	2	21	3	-	26	9	13
1930..	7	20	1	-	-	21	2	15
1931..	33	33	2	-	-	35	4	5
1932..	24	23	1	-	-	24	1	1
1933..	31	25	6	-	-	31	6	6
1934..	9	4	4	-	-	8	4	4
1935..	7	4	3	-	-	7	2	2
1936	143	-	62	-	1	63	29	8
1937	30	1	58	-	1	60	9	17

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Mr. Martlew, Chief Sanitary Inspector, submits the following remarks, with a summary of work done by the Sanitary Inspectors:—

The town is divided into five districts. A District Sanitary Inspector is responsible to the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the constant supervision of each District. In addition, an Inspector specialises in the control of factories, workshops (including bakehouses), and shops.

NUISANCES AND OTHER MATTERS DEALT WITH BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING 1937.

	1937.
Houses and premises inspected and visited <i>re</i> nuisances	
and complaints	2111
Re-visits to nuisances	5755
Other visits made	852
Visits to premises (testing of drainage)	126
Nuisances discovered	4018
Nuisances abated	4033
Notices issued (preliminary)	775
,, (formal)	545
Letters issued <i>re</i> nuisances	843

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Houses with defective roofs	403
,, with damp and defective walls	869
,, with defective gutters and down-spouts	299
,, requiring gutters or down-spouts	2
,, with defective windows	361
,, with defective ceilings	118
,, with defective floors	138
,, with unclean walls and ceilings	134
,, with defective slopstones or waste-pipes	104
,, in a filthy condition	4
,, in a verminous condition	—
Defective surface of yards and passages	91
,, drains	42
Blocked drains	158
Defective and foul gullies	9
,, or blocked water-closets	121
,, water-closet flushing apparatus	77
Want of water supply to water-closet	3
Insanitary condition of water-closets	—
Defective or blocked waste-water-closets	6
,, closets (structure)	4
,, ash-houses	2
,, middensteads	2
Accumulation of manure and refuse	22
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	2
Defective chimney stacks and want of pots	113
Insufficient closet accommodation	9
Miscellaneous	725

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year 48 smoke observations have been taken. Visits have been made to premises, and instructions have been given to stokers as to the best methods of stoking and only causing a minimum amount of smoke. Following suggestions from officers of the Health Department many manufacturers are now using smokeless fuel. In three instances the time limit for the emission of dense smoke was exceeded, and in these cases warning letters were addressed to the offenders.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES AND HOUSES LET-IN-LODGINGS

The common lodging houses and houses let-in-lodgings have been regularly visited, and are kept in a satisfactory condition.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

No. of common lodging-houses in the Borough	..	..	9
„ lodgers allowed nightly	..	..	462
„ visits	..	..	652

HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.

No. of houses on register	..	..	6
„ visits	..	..	156

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The number of offensive trade premises is eight. They consist of:—

- 1 fellmonger.
- 1 fat boiler.
- 3 gutscrapers.
- 1 gutscraper and fat boiler.
- 2 tripe boilers.

17 visits were made to these premises during the year 1937.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

All premises where bedding or furniture is manufactured are visited with a view to finding the kind of flock which is used. Seven samples of Rag Flock were submitted to the Public Analyst, and with one exception, proved to be up to the standard required. In the one case referred to, the Regulations were only slightly contravened.

CANAL BOATS ACT, 1877, AND 1884 and PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

No. of Boats that have been registered at Wigan..	..	353
„ still in use or available..	..	41
„ broken up, not in use or cannot be traced	..	312
„ Inspections	..	92
„ Notices issued	..	1
„ Notices complied with	..	1
„ Contraventions of regulations	..	—
„ Letters sent out	..	4

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

No. of Workshops on register	..	..	..	..	..	128
„ Bakehouses on register	..	..	..	..	..	144
„ Domestic workshops on register	..	..	..	..	..	59
„ visits to outworkers premises	..	..	..	..	..	6
„ visits to factories	..	..	..	..	..	68
„ visits to workshops and workplaces	..	..	..	..	..	161

The following defects were dealt with :—

Overcrowding of Workshops	..	..	..	—
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes				1	
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	..	..		3	
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	..			14	
Requiring limewashing and cleansing	..	..		12	
Other nuisances	..	..	..	15	
<hr/>					
Total	..	..	..	..	45
No. of defects remedied	..	..	..	..	44
„ notices received from H.M. Inspector	..	..	..	..	22
„ letters sent out	..	..	..	..	19
„ underground bakehouses being used	..	..	..	..	3

SHOPS ACTS, 1912-1936.

No. of shops on register	..	..	..	..	..	2150
„ visits and observations (day)	..	..	..	..	..	5994
„ „ „ (night)	..	..	..	..	..	7550
„ „ „ (Sunday)	..	..	..	..	..	200
„ „ re employment of young persons	..	..	..	..	..	38

REPORT OF OFFENCES.

Not exhibiting Closing Notices	..	..	..	..	..	7
„ „ Forms re Employment of Young Persons	..	..	..	..	..	58
„ „ Form “ K ”	..	..	..	..	..	3
„ „ Assistants' Half-holiday Forms	..	..	..	..	..	11
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes	..	..	..	..	..	6
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	4
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	10
Provision of suitable accommodation for meals	..	..	..	..	..	6
Provision of suitable washing facilities	..	..	..	..	..	4
Retention of reasonable temperature	..	..	..	..	..	4
Lack of proper ventilation	..	..	..	..	..	4
Cleanliness of shop premises	..	..	..	..	..	15
Insufficient lighting to W.C.s	..	..	..	..	..	8
Other defects or deficiencies	..	..	..	..	..	56
Letters sent out re contraventions	..	..	..	..	..	86

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

No. of " Listed Sellers " on register	..	..	..	..	53
„ visits to registered premises	..	..	..	..	81
„ contraventions discovered	..	..	..	..	1
„ letters sent out	..	..	..	..	1

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.

There are 26 places of entertainment within the Borough, each one is inspected periodically and reports are made on their sanitary condition before the renewal of licences.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Mr. E. Richardson who devotes a portion of his time as Administrative Officer under the above Act, reports as follows:—

No. of premises under observation on 1st January, 1937	..	..	..	..	10
No. of premises found to be infested during 1937	..	..	..	..	128
No. of premises reported to be free from rats or mice during 1937	..	..	..	..	101
No. of premises under observation on 31st December, 1937	..	..	..	..	37
Total number of visits made during 1937	..	..	..	..	343

The occupiers of premises still infested are carrying out the requirements of the Act. During Rat Week, held in November, 1937, a special effort was made to exterminate rats and mice. 2,885 baits were prepared and distributed free of charge to persons in occupation of premises infested. Satisfactory results were reported.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The majority of the Public Elementary Schools of the Borough are provided with separate W.C.'s, each with its own cistern and flushing provision. In a few of the non-provided schools there remain forms of automatic flushing or hand flushing.

The urinal accommodation in the schools is also generally satisfactory. In a few instances there still remains room for some improvement at certain non-provided schools by way of more ample provision and more effective flushing, but with the progress in schools' reorganisation, it may be anticipated that opportunity will present itself for adaptations and improvements in school premises which will remedy any present deficiencies.

Regular lime washing of conveniences and painting of closet walls is arranged for by the Education Authority in the case of all Public Elementary Schools in their area.

5.—HOUSING.

The number of dwellings at the 1931 census was 18,573. The number of families was 20,190, or 1,617 more than dwellings.

The population at the 1931 census was 85,357 and the estimated population on July 1st, 1937, was 83,190.

<i>No. of Houses Built Since 1920.</i>							
<i>The number of houses built in :—</i>				<i>By Private Enterprise.</i>	<i>By Local Authority</i>	<i>Total.</i>	
1921	..	..	..	2	28	..	30
1922	..	..	..	18	107	..	125
1923	..	..	..	23	—	..	23
1924	..	..	..	24	50	..	74
1925	..	..	..	130	10	..	140
1926	..	..	..	73	106	..	179
1927	..	..	..	115	196	..	311
1928	..	..	..	89	182	..	271
1929	..	..	..	82	162	..	244
1930	..	..	..	34	135	..	169
1931	..	..	..	107	41	..	148
1932	..	..	..	102	—	..	102
1933	..	..	..	221	78	..	299
1934	..	..	..	284	304	..	589
1935	..	..	..	262	186	..	448
1936	..	..	..	236	193	..	429
1937	..	..	..	183	238	..	421
Total				1985	2016	..	4001

1,985 built by private enterprise.

2,016 built by local authority.

During the period 1921-1936 about 705 dwellings have been demolished or ceased to be used as dwelling houses.

HOUSING ACTS 1930-1936.

During the year 1937, 142 houses in Clearance Areas, and 377 Individual Unfit Houses—a total of 519 dwellings occupied by 1,949 persons, were reported to the Insanitary Houses and Conversions Committee.

From September, 1933, when the Five Year Programme was submitted until December 31st, 1936, 740 dwellings occupied by 2,834 persons have been dealt with.

The total number of dwellings reported to December 31st, 1937, was 1,259, occupied by 4,783 persons.

On the 12th July, 1937, a scheme was submitted to the Insanitary Houses and Conversions Committee for dealing with 239 houses occupied by 939 persons, and for the erection of 220 houses on the Worsley Hall Estate. This scheme was approved by the Ministry of Health.

761 families have been re-housed in Corporation Houses situate on the Worsley Hall and Thicknesse Estates.

Many other families have voluntarily found other accommodation.

During the year, 216 dwellings have been demolished and 33 have ceased to be used for human habitation in consequence of action taken under the Housing Acts.

In addition 8 dwellings have been demolished in consequence of informal action.

The total number of dwellings demolished or ceased to be used for human habitation since the Five Year Programme was submitted is 759.

During the year 135 houses have been rendered fit for human habitation, and 14 back to back houses have been made into 7 through houses.

It is pleasing to note that no less than 77 dwellings have been erected by private enterprise on the sites which were previously occupied by insanitary houses.

1.—*Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :*

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected (for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2709
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	..	11476					
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2487
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	..	5422					
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	..	..	..	..	..	..	328
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	..	..	..	..	..	..	1733

2.—*Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	1255
---	----	----	----	----	------

3.—*Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :*

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By owners | Nil. |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners .. | Nil. |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 629 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By owners | 537 |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners .. | Nil. |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. | 232 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 216 |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 3 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil. |

Undertakings were given that thirty-three houses would not be used as dwellings in future. 6 of these houses have been demolished

HOUSING ACT, 1935.

PREVENTION AND ABATEMENT OF OVERCROWDING.

During the latter months of the year a further survey was made of all houses classified as overcrowded. From the figures in the following schedule it will be observed there has been a considerable reduction in the number of overcrowded houses.

Every effort was made to trace families who have vacated overcrowded houses with a view to preventing the overcrowding of other houses, but it was found impossible to trace several families and the figures given in the schedule as regards 1937 may not be absolutely correct as there may be cases with which the Health Department are not acquainted.

I am informed by the Rating Department of the Corporation that on an average the tenancies of 60 dwellings change each week within the Borough, or over 3,000 per annum.

It has been deemed advisable to retain the services for the time being of a temporary employee who revisits the overcrowded houses, surveys new and altered dwellings, and carries out the clerical work entailed in keeping the register of artisan dwellings up-to-date.

Up to the present the Local Authority have not erected houses to relieve overcrowding, but have allotted a number of Corporation dwellings which became vacant, for this purpose.

A scheme for the erection of 192 houses to be submitted to the Ministry of Health in the near future, includes 50 houses to relieve overcrowding.

HOUSING ACT, 1935: OVERCROWDING.

(a) 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of								
	the year	..	..	..	..	..	..	471
2. Number of families dwelling therein						..	..	560
3. Number of persons dwelling therein						..	..	3486
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during								
	the year	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
(c) 1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during								
	the year	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
2. Number of persons concerned in such cases							..	179

The above figures do not include overcrowding which has been relieved by Slum Clearance.

- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil.

6.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. MILK SUPPLY.

MILK AND DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

The number of persons registered under the above enactments are as follows:—

Dairymen	126
Premises within Borough	77
Premises outside Borough	49
Purveyors of bottled milk only	434
Wholesale Dealers	61
(10 of whom are producers. in the Borough.)	
Producers	24

Approximately 280 milch cows are kept in the Borough and the cowsheds are kept in a satisfactory condition.

Number of visits to Cowsheds	124
Number of visits to Dairies	173
Number of visits to Milkshops	480

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Number of persons licensed for the sale of pasteurised milk	41
Number of persons licensed for the sale and production of pasteurised milk	4
Number of persons licensed for the sale of Accredited Milk	6
Number of persons licensed for the sale and production of Accredited Milk	2
Number of persons licensed for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk	4

Since the Milk and Dairies Order came into force much time has been spent with a view to improving the milk supply.

Visits are made to dairies etc. for the purpose of examining milk on arrival.

During the year 170 samples were taken for the purpose of testing the amount of foreign matter contained in milk intended for sale in the Borough. These samples were obtained at dairies.

Mr. Woods, the Veterinary Inspector, makes the following report:—

1937 has repeated last year's report as an uneventful year. There have been no outbreaks under the Contagious Diseases of Animals Act and Foot and Mouth Disease. I have made the usual quarterly inspections of cattle in the 28 Borough cowsheds. Three cows have been taken under the Tuberculosis Order.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK.**RESULT OF EXAMINATION.**

Type of Milk	Total No. of Samples	No. of Bacteria found per c.c.				Presence of <i>B. Coli.</i>			
		Under 10,000	10,000 to 100,000	100,000 to 500,000	Over 500,000	Absent in		Present in	
						1·0 c.c.	·01c.c.	·1c.c.	1·0c.c.
Fresh Milk	64	20	25	13	6	21	—	—	43
Pasteurised Milk ..	23	14	7	2	—	15	—	—	8
Accredited Milk ..	4	All satisfied the Methylene Blue Test and the Coliform Test.							

PRESENCE OF T.B. : INOCULATION TEST.

	No. of Samples submitted.		T.B. not found.		T.B. found.	
Milk	75	..	61	..	10	..
Pasteurised Milk	8	..	7	..	—	..
Accredited Milk	3	..	3	..	—	..

It was not possible to complete the tests on 4 samples of milk and 1 sample of pasteurised milk owing to the deaths of the guinea pigs.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF ICE CREAM.

16 samples were submitted for examination, with the following results :—

NUMBER OF MICRO-ORGANISMS.

In 2 days at 37° c.				In 3 days at 22° c.		
under 1,000	1,000 to 10,000	10,000 to 50,000	over 50,000	Under 10,000	10,000 to 100,000	over 100,000
2	1	1	12	2	4	10

PRESENCE OF *B. COLI.*

Present in :						Not found in :					
10 c.c.	1 c.c.	1/10 c.c.	1/100 c.c.	1/1000 c.c.	1/10,000 c.c.	1 c.c.	·1 c.c.	·01 c.c.	·001 c.c.	·0001 c.c.	·00001 c.c.
2	1	4	5	3	1	1	2	4	4	4	1

PRESENCE OF *STREPTOCOCCUS FAECALIS* (*ENTEROCOCCUS*).

Present in :				Not found in :				
1 c.c.	1/10 c.c.	1/100 c.c.	1/1000 c.c.	100 c.c.	·1 c.c.	·01 c.c.	·001 c.c.	·0001 c.c.
4	7	3	1	1	4	6	4	1

McCRADY FIGURE, per 100 c.c.**B. Coli.****Enterococcus.**

Under 10.	10 to 1,000	1,000 to 5,000	5,000 to 10,000	10,000 to 20,000	20,000 to 100,000	Over 100,000	Nil.	100 to 1,000	1,000 to 5,000	5,000 to 10,000	10,000 to 20,000	20,000 to 100,000
1	2	4	3	2	1	3	1	5	5	1	3	1

MEAT INSPECTION.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector and five District Inspectors are all qualified Meat Inspectors. There are within the Borough 17 slaughter houses, 14 are registered and three licensed. District Inspectors examine carcasses slaughtered within their own districts. Meat which has been slaughtered in rural districts, and which, there is reason to believe, has not been submitted for examination, is examined as far as possible immediately after its arrival in the town. Premises which come within the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, are frequently visited. Meat and offal condemned is destroyed at the Miry Lane Depot. In certain instances condemned carcasses have been allowed to be sent to a fat melter for manufacturing purposes.

In these instances the firm receiving this condemned meat have signed an undertaking that it will only be used for manufacturing purposes and regularly forward special schedules of the quantities received.

Shops, stores and vehicles are constantly inspected.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTER HOUSES IN USE IN THE AREA.

			On 31st December, 1920.		On 31st December, 1937.	
Registered .. ..	..	..	24	..	..	14
Licensed .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	3
Total .. ..	..	..	25	..	..	17
No. of visits to Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	5331
„ „ Markets	..	..	..	..	..	321
„ „ Butchers' and other food shops	..	..	..	..	..	780
„ Certificates issued (condemned food) ..	..	..	..	..	..	315

CARCASSES EXAMINED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

	Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Total.
Carcasses examined	13,145	2,155	15,986	14,982	46 268
Carcasses totally condemned	205	25	28	5	263
Percentage totally condemned	1.55	1.16	1.7	.03	.57

The following meat and offal from private slaughter-houses was surrendered and destroyed, or sold for manufacturing purposes, during the year 1937 :—

				OFFAL CONDEMNED.											
				Whole Carcase and all Offal Condemned	Part of Carcase Condemned	Heads.	Lungs.	Livers.	Hearts.	Stomachs	Spleens.	Kidneys.	Udders.	Mesenteries.	Skirts.
Affected with Tuberculosis :															
Beasts	..	..	188	355	2010	5776	1338	40	849	80	772	110	1372	1112	
Calves	..	..	9	—	—	3	4	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Pigs	..	..	17	1	1407	675	536	679	111	22	16	—	142	—	—
Sheep	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affected with other Diseases, etc. :															
Beasts	..	..	17	2	13	467	2892	1	1	—	429	592	1	1	
Calves	..	..	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs	..	..	11	1	2	76	139	36	1	1	19	—	1	—	—
Sheep	..	..	5	—	—	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
				263	359	3432	7000	4912	762	962	103	1238	702	1516	1113

REGISTRATION OF PURVEYORS OF MEAT AND PREMISES.

The Wigan Corporation Act, 1933, Section 36, contained powers for the compulsory registration of purveyors of meat and premises which are used or proposed to be used for the sale of meat. The number of premises registered during the year 1937 was 139.

REGISTRATION OF ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS AND PREMISES.

The Wigan Corporation Act, 1933, Section 34, contained powers for the compulsory registration of Ice Cream Manufacturers, Vendors and Premises.

At the end of 1937 22 premises were registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream, and in addition 43 vendors were registered for the sale of Ice Cream

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

106 premises in the Borough used for the purpose of fish frying, all of which were kept under observation.

SUMMARY OF OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED 1937.

Other meat and offal	257 lbs.
No. of packages of wet fish condemned	536½
No. of packages of dried fish condemned	577
No. of rabbits, fowl and game condemned	688
No. of packages of fruit and vegetables condemned ..	374

OTHER FOOD.

A large wholesale business in fish and other foodstuffs is carried on in and around the markets, and these premises are visited daily.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

243 samples, obtained under the above Act were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination:

It is pleasing to record that all the samples were reported as being genuine.

SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR 1937.

<i>Articles.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Adulterated.</i>	<i>Not formal.</i>
Milk	122	122	—	15
Cream	6	6	—	6
Condensed Milk	2	2	—	2
Butter	16	16	—	—
Lard	6	6	—	—
Margarine ..	8	8	—	—
Dripping ..	3	3	—	3
Jam	8	8	—	8
Tea	11	11	—	—

<i>Articles.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Adulterated.</i>	<i>Not formal.</i>
Coffee	11	11	—	—
Whiskey	4	4	—	4
Rum	3	3	—	3
Brandy	2	2	—	2
Gin	3	3	—	3
Sausages	11	9	2	8
Mixed Fish or Meat Paste	6	6	—	6
Pepper	3	3	—	3
Beans	5	5	—	5
Peas	3	3	—	3
Cane Sugar	3	3	—	3
Liquid Glucose	1	1	—	1
Icy Mints	1	—	1	1
Oil of Peppermint	1	1	—	1
Bleaching Preparation	1	1	—	1
Tinned Carrots	1	1	—	1
Honey	2	2	—	2
Total	243	240	3	81

Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

	(a.) <i>Number of Samples examined for the presence of a Preservative.</i>	(b) <i>Number in which preservative was reported to be present, and percentage of Preservative found in each Sample.</i>
Milk	122	Nil.
Cream	6	Nil.
Condensed Milk ..	2	Nil.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

All premises where imported articles of food are sold are kept under observation, and 803 visits were paid to wholesalers and retailers premises during the year 1937.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

8 Samples of Feeding Stuffs and 12 samples of Fertilisers were taken and submitted to the Agricultural Analyst who reported that the latter were found to contain the full value as declared in the statutory statement, in some cases there was a slight excess of one or other ingredient. None of the feeding stuff samples called for an adverse report, although in a few cases there was a trifling deficiency and/or excess of one or other constituent.

CHEMICAL WORK.

The Borough Analyst, Mr. S. E. Melling, F.I.C., submits the following report of the work carried out during the year ending 31st December, 1937.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY,

The Cliff,

Higher Broughton,

Manchester.

The Public Analyst has the honour to report as follows upon the duties of his office during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1937.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

During the above period, 243 samples of food, etc., were analysed, four of which were reported against as either falling short of the required standard composition or, in the alternative, as being definitely adulterated. Thus, the percentage of adulteration is just about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

The samples comprised 121 milks, 16 butters, 11 each of tea, coffee sausage, eight margarines, seven jams, six each of lard, cream and meat, etc., paste, five tinned vegetables, four whiskies, three each of rum, gin and condensed milk, two each of brandy and honey, one each of sweets and tinned raspberries, and 16 miscellaneous samples.

The four adulterated or non-standard samples consisted of two sausages, and one each of milk and sweets. The samples of sausage, from the same source, were reported adversely owing to their containing sulphur dioxide to the extent of 112 and 140 parts per million respectively, the presence of this preservative not being notified at the time of purchase. The sample of milk (informally taken) reported against, was found to be deficient in fat to the extent of 20 per cent., but, with this one exception, the fat content of the supply was of a high order, as shown by the following table:—

MILK-FAT TABLE.

1	equal to	0.8%	contained under	3 per cent.	of milk-fat.
18	„	14.9%	„	from	3.00 to 3.25 per cent. of milk-fat.
48	„	39.7%	„	„	3.26 to 3.50 „ „
21	„	17.3%	„	„	3.51 to 3.75 „ „
15	„	12.4%	„	„	3.76 to 4.00 „ „
18	„	14.9%	„	upwards of	4.00 „ „

Moreover, all milks were devoid of preservative and colouring agents.

The sample of sweets (icy mints) was returned as containing a slightly excessive amount of sulphur dioxide, when based on the proportion of liquid glucose present, and the manufacturer was advised accordingly.

Those comestibles which are governed by appropriate Public Health Regulations conformed thereto, both as to composition and statutory obligation, while the samples of spirits were of the required statutory strength.

The moisture content of the edible fats was kept within the statutory maximum of 16 per cent., and the butters were free from foreign fats.

All the miscellaneous samples were sound commercial quality, and call for no comment.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

During the year, 12 samples of fertiliser (formally taken) and eight samples of feeding stuff (informally taken) were examined. All the former were found to contain the full value as declared in the statutory statement; indeed, in some cases, there was a slight excess of one or other ingredient. Again, none of the feeding stuff samples called for an adverse report, although in a few cases there was a trifling deficiency and/or excess of one or other constituent, after making due allowance (limits of variation).

WATER SUPPLY.

In order to ascertain, from time to time, the quality of the various public supplies, 18 samples of water have been submitted. With one or two exceptions, the chemical analysis has revealed a sound potable condition.

RAG FLOCK.

Seven samples of rag flock were examined and, with one exception, were found to contain within the maximum amount of combined chlorine (30 parts per 100,000) allowed by the Rag Flock Regulations, 1912. In the one case referred to, the Regulations were only slightly contravened.

(Signed) S. ERNEST MELLING,

Public Analyst.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF WATER.

During the year 29 samples of water were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, University of Manchester, for Bacteriological examination.

The results of these examinations are set out below :—

RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

Source of Supply.	Aerobic Organisms.										B. Coli.										Bact. per 100 c.c.		
	In 3 days at 22°c.					In 2 days At 37°c.					Not found in					Found in							
	Under 10	10 20	20 100	Over 100	Under 10	10 20	20 40	40 100	Over 100	·01 c.c.	·1 c.c.	1 c.c.	10 c.c.	100 c.c.	·1 c.c.	1 c.c.	10 c.c.	50 c.c.	100 c.c.	0	1—100	Over 100	
Edgewood and Nicholson's Pit	2	—	4	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	
Bispham and Nicholson's Pit	1	1	3	1	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	—	
Thirlmere ...	1	1	3	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	2	—	4	2	—	
Worthington and Thirlmere.	1	2	4	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	—	1	1	2	3	4	—	
Worthington ...	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
Compensation Reservoir, Edgewood ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Subsoil drain at point of discharge near Compensation Reservoir, Edgewood, from Fouracres	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	

7.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1937.

Name of District—Wigan County Borough.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.												Total Cases notified in each locality (e.g., Parish or Ward) of the district.																	
	At Ages—Years.												St. George	Lindsay	St. Cath	St. Patrick	St. Thomas	Poolstock	Victoria	St. Andrew	Swinley	All Saints	West Pem.	North Pem.	Central Pem.	South Pem.				
	under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over																		
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	46	35	45	7	16	6	52	13	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	114	7	4	11	5	57	21	4	5	—	—	—	10	95	12	8	25	13	22	1	28	12	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ..	5	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	331	1	8	10	20	172	95	10	13	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	218	23	20	5	9	41	12	8	25	18	22	13	—	10	12	—	—	—	10	14	44	3	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenzal Pneumonia	34	2	—	3	2	1	3	5	7	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ..	120	7	8	5	11	74	10	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	1	16	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neon.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pul. Tuberculosis	73	—	—	—	—	1	—	11	29	16	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	34	3	4	6	3	6	5	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	815	61	70	111	136	405	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	1784	52	105	114	188	758	156	45	92	44	60	19	—	71	96	74	107	72	79	88	365	145	33	60	130	234	230	—	—	—

Number of Notifications, compared with other years :—

Disease.	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Smallpox.. ..	13	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Polio-Encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	179	559	203	100	72	240	376	398	144	114
Enteric Fever	7	5	1	1	5	0	1	3	1	5
Continued Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	19	42	107	43	32	25	21	26	205	331
Puerperal Fever	3	5	7	0	1	2	2	3	7	1
Erysipelas	49	40	42	38	41	52	51	47	48	28
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	8	5	9	4	2	3	2	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	1	11	0	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	0	1	0	3	4	9	4	2	0	4
Measles	93	917	1481	26	1565	961	429	2157	77	815
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	142	115	91	102	83	79	80	61	60	73
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	65	38	52	62	43	56	45	43	43	34
Pneumonia	257	325	216	232	208	253	142	249	205	218
Influenzal Pneumonia	10	29	13	34	19	50	21	4	10	34
Dysentery	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Chicken-pox	445	525	489	556	162	240	164	57	126	120
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	9	15	3	7	7	7	9	5	5
Total	1300	2628	2725	1212	2248	1988	1347	3063	932	1784

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFICATIONS, 1937

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tot.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	10	3	10	8	11	12	8	10	9	10	17	6	114
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	5
Diphtheria	12	14	14	14	17	31	45	24	38	37	41	44	331
Puerperal Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	3	3	1	5	1	1	1	2	1	4	4	2	28
Ophthalmia Neon.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Phthisis	4	6	6	9	10	6	6	4	6	6	7	3	73
Other Tubercular Diseases	6	2	1	4	3	1	4	4	2	1	4	2	34
Pneumonia	23	21	30	15	15	14	14	13	9	18	21	25	218
Influenzal Pneumonia	16	8	3	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	2	1	34
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox	10	1	4	8	28	26	20	6	3	2	4	8	120
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	1	2	1	9	26	49	112	29	2	58	217	309	815
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	5
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	89	61	72	72	112	140	212	96	74	138	317	401	1784

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

Diphtheria was again very prevalent in the Borough. (See page 52.)

Cases of Scarlet Fever were not admitted to Hospital except in exceptional circumstances.

There was an epidemic of Measles, though less numbers than in previous epidemics, and the death rate was very low. (See below).

MEASLES.

This disease has been locally notifiable since April 1st, 1925, and occurs in epidemic form frequently. Every case is visited by Health Visitors or School Nurses.

815 cases occurred in 1937, and there was 4 deaths.

Number of cases notified 815

Deaths 4

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Deaths from Measles	22	10	1	46	1	4
Death-rate	·26	·11	·01	·54	·01	·05
Schools Closed ..	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER.

4 cases of Cerebro-spinal Fever were notified during 1937.

Case No. 1. K.T., age 1 year 11 months.

„ 2. D.R., „ 6 months.

„ 3. R.R., „ 7 months.

„ 4. R.B., „ 8 years.

All cases were treated at Whelley Hospital and were discharged recovered.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Enteric fever still occurs in the Borough, but it has ceased to be the scourge it used to be in Wigan. The following table gives the figures since 1896.

	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Death rate.</i>
Yearly average for 20 years ended 1915	96	18·5	·23
Yearly average for 5 years ended 1920	36	6·6	·07
Yearly average for 5 years ended 1925	18	2·4	·02
Yearly average for 5 years ended 1930	5	1	·01
Year 1933	1	1	·01
Year 1934	1	Nil.	Nil.
Year 1935	3	1	·01
Year 1936	1	Nil.	Nil.
Year 1937	5	Nil.	Nil.

INFLUENZA.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Deaths	77	8	28	17	42
Death rate	·90	·09	·34	·20	·50
Schools closed	22	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	29

WHOOPING COUGH.

Information of cases of the disease is received from schools, during visits to homes by health visitors and school nurses, and occasionally from other sources. Each known case is visited.

The number of deaths and the death rates for the last five years are given below :—

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Deaths	1	3	5	18	1
Death rate	·01	·03	·06	·21	·01
Schools closed	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

VACCINATIONS.

The total number of vaccinations performed during 1937, by the two Public Vaccinators was 229.

SMALL POX.

No cases of small pox occurred in the Borough during 1937.

RETURN TO BE MADE ON OR BEFORE THE 9TH OF FEBRUARY, 1938, BY THE VACCINATION OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN RESPECTING THE VACCINATION OF CHILDREN WHOSE BIRTHS WERE REGISTERED FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, INCLUSIVE.

Registration Sub-Districts comprised in the Vaccination Officer's District.	Number of Births returned in the "Births List Sheets" as registered from 1st January to 31st December.										Number of these Births entered by 31st January, in Columns I., II., IV., and V. of the "Vaccination Register" (Birth List Sheets), viz.:					Number of these Births which on 31st January, remained unentered in the "Vaccination Register" on account (as shown by "Report Book")				Number of these Births remaining on 31st January, neither duly entered in the "Vaccination Register," (Columns 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, of this Return), nor temporarily accounted for in the "Report Book" (columns 8, 9 and 10 of this Return).			* Total number of Certificates and copies of Vaccination of Children under 14 received during the Calendar year.			Number of Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection actually received by the Vaccination Officer irrespective of the dates of birth of the children to which they relate, during the Calendar Year.						
	Col. I.		Col. II.		Col. IV.		Col. V.		Col. I.		Col. II.		Col. IV.		Col. V.		Col. I.		Col. II.		Col. IV.		Col. V.		Col. I.		Col. II.		Col. IV.		Col. V.	
	Successfully Vaccinated.		Insusceptible of Vaccination.		Had Small-pox.		Number in respect of whom Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection have been received.	Died Unvaccinated.		Postponement by Medical Certificate.	Removal to Districts the Vaccination Officers of which have been duly apprised.	Removal to places unknown or which cannot be reached and cases not having been found.	on 31st January, neither duly entered in the "Vaccination Register," (Columns 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, of this Return), nor temporarily accounted for in the "Report Book" (columns 8, 9 and 10 of this Return).	* Total number of Certificates and copies of Vaccination of Children under 14 received during the Calendar year.	Number of Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection actually received by the Vaccination Officer irrespective of the dates of birth of the children to which they relate, during the Calendar Year.																	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
WIGAN WEST ..	345	47	-	-	275	16	2	-	5	-	53	269	53	269	53	269	53	269	53	269	53	269	53	269	53	269	53	269	53	269		
WIGAN EAST ..	613	149	-	-	372	30	10	10	12	30	120	340	30	120	30	120	30	120	30	120	30	120	30	120	30	120	30	120	30	120		
WIGAN CENTRAL	489	89	-	-	348	29	2	-	10	11	108	516	11	108	11	108	11	108	11	108	11	108	11	108	11	108	11	108	11	108		
TOTAL ..	1,447	285	-	-	995	75	12	10	27	41	281	1,125	41	281	41	281	41	281	41	281	41	281	41	281	41	281	41	281	41	281		

9th February, 1938.

NOTE.—(a) The total of the figures in columns 3 to 11 should agree with the figure in column 2. Any cases of children successfully vaccinated after the declaration of conscientious objection had been made should be included in column 6, and not in column 3. The number of such cases should be inserted here:— None.

(b) The figures in columns 2 to 11 should not include re-registered births or cases of children born in other districts.

* The total in this column should be the number of certificates and copies of certificates of successful primary vaccination of children under 14, actually received during the year, including any relating to births registered in previous years. The total thus given should include the Certificates of successful primary vaccination of which copies have been sent to Vaccination Officers of other Districts. The total number of copies of Certificates for the year sent to other Vaccination Officers should be stated here:—11

DIPHTHERIA.

During the year Diphtheria continued to be prevalent in the Borough, and this was the experience in many districts all over the country. 331 cases were notified in Wigan, 22 of which died. This is a case mortality of 6.6 per hundred.

Free preventive inoculation has been offered since December, 1936, for children of pre-school and school age, *but it is to be deplored that the response has been very disappointing*, although parents have received forms taken home by school children pointing out the advantages of inoculation and giving them an opportunity of signing consents.

In addition to that, a pamphlet explaining the importance of inoculation and immunisation was delivered to every house in the borough. The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides carried out this good work. 20,000 pamphlets were delivered. It is regrettable that lives are lost and large sums of money spent in expensive treatment when immunisation of all children would reduce the number of cases of diphtheria to a negligible figure.

Children up to 8 years of age are given A.P.T. in two fortnightly doses, and those over 8 receive T.A.F. in three fortnightly doses. Since December, 1936, to end of 1937 :—

No. of acceptances under 8	..	..	..	..	370
No. of acceptances over 8	..	..	..	..	350
No. completed	..	..	..	..	954

The number of school children in the Borough is approximately 12,000, and over 6,000 of pre-school age, so the percentage of children inoculated is very small indeed. It is important to note that *no case who has had the full immunisation inoculations has contracted Diphtheria.*

Of the 331 cases notified 325 were removed to Whelley Hospital for treatment. In addition to these 65 cases of diphtheria were received from outside districts. Thus a great amount of difficult extra work has been done at this hospital. Although many of the cases were late untreated ones, and many of the “gravis” type, the results were very satisfactory.

The Medical Officers and Nursing Staff have been continuously vigilant and search for carriers is constantly made in the schools. Many throat and nose swabs have been taken and positive cases discovered and sent to hospital. Several children attending Clinics have been found positive and isolated in hospital until negative.

Additional Preventative Measures :

Recommendations were made through the Education Authority to the Head Teachers of Schools :—

1. All teachers and senior children to gargle every morning from *own* drinking vessel. There must be no interchange of such vessels. Compound Glycerine of Thymol B.P.C., *diluted* a part of this to four parts of water.

2. Each child should have a separate drinking vessel, kept separately and labelled, otherwise automatic fountains should be installed.

3. Each child should have a separate towel labelled and kept separately. No child to use another person's towel or a towel for common use.

4. Pencils, pens, chalks, paint brushes or other writing material, or anything which might carry germs from one to the other, to be kept separately, and each child to have his or her own, and not borrow.

5. Teachers in the schools most affected, i.e., St. Michael's, Beech Hill and St. Patrick's, could help to get knowledge of suspicious cases early if they would kindly look at the throats of the children in the junior schools, three times a week using a wooden spatula for each child. Such spatula to be used once only and then destroyed. If any white deposit is seen on the throat, the child should be sent to the Clinic for examination.

Anti-toxin can be obtained free of charge by practitioners at:—

The Pemberton Hospital. (Tel. Pemberton 82314.)

The Pemberton Police Stations.

The Wigan Police Station (Telephone 2891).

Whelley Sanatorium (Telephone 3691)

Public Health Department (Telephone 2243).

CHICKEN POX.

Chicken Pox has ceased to be compulsorily notifiable in the Borough owing to the fact that Small Pox has not been prevalent in the surrounding districts. Cases coming to our knowledge through other channels were visited by a Medical Officer of the Department, in order to confirm the diagnosis, and were again visited later by a School Nurse (in cases of school age), and a re-admission certificate issued when the child was free from infection.

120 cases of Chicken Pox were reported. These were visited by a Medical Officer.

SCARLET FEVER.

There is a decrease in the number of cases, several have been of a severe type. There were 114 cases notified, 48 of which were admitted to hospital.

The treatment of severe cases in hospital by antiscarlatinal serum has been very successful.

SUMMER DIARRHOEA.

The following table gives particulars of deaths from Summer Diarrhoea since the year 1883.

Average for the ten years	1883—1892	79·5
„ „ „ „	1893—1902	93·0
„ „ „ „	1903—1912	99·0
„ „ „ „	1913—1922	61·5
„ „ „ „	1923—1932	15·1

The number of deaths for the year 1937 was 10.

Enquiries have been made in each of these cases.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

One case was notified during 1937.

ERYSIPELAS.

Number of cases notified	28
Number of deaths	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (PREVENTION) ACTS, Etc.

A high-pressure disinfecter is used for the purpose of the disinfection and disinfestation of clothing, bedding, and other articles.

No. of houses disinfected	617
„ rooms disinfected	1530
„ beds disinfected	987
„ mattresses disinfected	15
„ sheets and quilts disinfected	4824
„ other articles disinfected	4192
„ premises cleansed and limewashed after infectious disease	197
„ visits to houses <i>re</i> limewashing and cleansing, &c. ..	258
„ „ „ infectious disease	594
„ letters sent out <i>re</i> infectious disease	66
„ „ „ limewashing	28
„ library books disinfected	178
„ schools disinfected	9

DISINFECTION.

All infected bedding and clothing is treated in a high-pressure steam disinfecter on the Washington-Lyons principle, which is situated within the grounds of the Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital. There is a cleansing station at the same hospital, quite apart from the wards, for the cleansing of verminous persons. It is fitted up with baths and dressing rooms, and the clothing is disinfected in the high pressure steam disinfecter.

An efficient staff of four disinfectors deal with the disinfection of dwelling houses. Rooms are disinfected as a routine after cases of all infectious diseases including tuberculosis, with the exception of measles and whooping cough.

Disinfection of rooms has been criticised, and in fact described as a useless procedure. Assuming that disinfection does not totally destroy the infecting organisms, it does impress the persons concerned of the necessity for cleanliness and care, and ensures a thorough scrubbing and cleansing of the rooms, which is doubtless of great hygienic value, especially in dirty houses.

There is no doubt that steam disinfection of bedding is a valuable preventive measure.

DISINFESTATION.

A scheme for the disinfestation of furniture and bedding belonging to persons who are to occupy dwellings controlled by the local authority is in operation. A furniture van was purchased and is used for the disinfestation of furniture, etc., by means of hydro-cyanide gas. This process is applied by contractors who specialise in the work. A skilled furniture packer is employed. In all cases where it is known or suspected that the premises are verminous the process of disinfestation is carried out before persons are allowed to occupy Corporation dwellings. The furniture from 261 houses was treated by this process during the year.

Bedding from premises infested with vermin is either destroyed or treated in a steam disinfectant. In 73 instances bedding was supplied in lieu of that which was destroyed on account of being unfit for further use. In addition 85 houses found to be infested with vermin were fumigated on one or more occasions during the year. A supply of vermicide was provided along with the loan of suitable sprays for further treatment of these and other premises.

DISTRIBUTION OF DISINFECTANTS.

Disinfectants are provided free to the occupiers of houses where infectious disease has occurred, and in cases where there are exceptional circumstances. Other persons who desire supplies are charged a small amount to meet the cost of the disinfectant.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Each month 2,000 copies of the journal "Better Health" are distributed in the district.

Classes for mothers are held each week at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Lectures on various health subjects are given from time to time in the town.

COMPENSATION CLAIMS AND MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The Medical Officer of Health examined 152 Corporation employees during the year 1937. The number of persons examined under the Workmen's Compensation Acts is very high, owing to the establishment of a Works Department.

LABORATORY WORK.

The following specimens were submitted for examination during 1937 :—

	<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Swabs for Diphtheria	433	1686	2119
Widal tests for enteric	—	15	15
Fæces and urine for enteric	12	63	75
Cerebro spinal fluid	2	3	5
Naso-Pharyngeal Swabs	15	16	31
Wassermann Tests for V.D.	218	705	923
C.S.F. (V.D.)	3	38	41
Tests for gonococci		15	15
Milk (T.B.			86
Milk (bacteria count)			91
Milk for B. Coli			91
Water (bacteriological)			29
Water (chemical)			18
Ice Cream			16
Food and Drugs samples			243
Total examinations			3798

HOSPITAL FOR ACUTE INFECTIOUS CASES, WHELLEY.

76 Beds.

(44 beds based on Ministry's recommendation of 144 sq. ft. per bed).

STAFF IN 1937.

Matron.

3 Sisters.	1 Cook.
14 Probationers	4 Ward-maids.
1 Laundress.	1 Gardener.
3 House-maids	1 Assistant Gardener
	2 Porters.

The Medical Officer of Health personally attends the patients.

The majority of cases admitted to Whelley Hospital are from the County Borough, but many are sent in from surrounding districts, including: Aspull and Haigh, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Hindley, Ince, Orrell, Standish, Upholland and the Wigan Rural area.

The accommodation available has been used to a large extent to admit the increased number of cases of Diphtheria. It was found necessary to arrange for 12 cases of Scarlet Fever to be admitted to the Ince Isolation Hospital.

	Notifications	Removed to Whelley Hospital.		Died in Whelley Hospital.	
		Wigan patients.	Out-dist. patients.	Wigan patients.	Out-dist. patients.
Scarlet Fever	114	48	5	..	..
Enteric Fever	5	5	8	..	..
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup..	331	325	65	18	5
Pneumonia	218	8	..	2	..
Influenzal Pneumonia	34	1	..	1	..
Chicken-pox	120	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas.. .. .	28	2	..	1	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	1	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	73	..	..	..	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	34	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	1	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	..
Measles	815	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	..	..	..	..
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	4	4	4	..	3
Dysentery .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Others .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..
Totals	1784	395	82	22	8

Whelley Hospital.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet.	Para-typhoid B.	Others.	Total.
In-patients, Jan. 1, 1937 ..	44	—	—	1	45
Admitted in 1937	390	53	14	20	477
Discharged „	352	53	14	13	432
Died „	26	—	—	7	33
In-patients, Jan. 1, 1938 ..	56	—	—	1	57

REVISIONS OF DIAGNOSES OF CASES TREATED AT WHELLEY SANATORIUM.

Admitted as suffering from :

Revised diagnosis :

1 Case of Diphtheria	1 Suppurating Tonsillitis
1 Case of Diphtheria	1 Laryngitis.
1 Case of Diphtheria	1 Pneumonia
1 Case of Enteric Fever	1 Pyrexia of Unknown Origin

8.—OTHER DISEASES.

BRONCHITIS.

					1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	128	92	92	94	95
Rates	..	..	..	..	1.50	1.08	1.09	1.12	1.14

PNEUMONIA.

					1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	141	79	113	89	101
Rates	..	..	..	..	1.65	.93	1.33	1.06	1.21

OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

					1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	11	12	12	19	10
Rates	..	..	..	..	.13	.14	.14	.22	.12

TOTAL OF THESE THREE RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

					1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	280	183	217	202	206
Rates	..	..	..	..	3.28	2.15	2.56	2.40	2.47

CANCER.

					1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Deaths	..	..	..	..	102	110	114	125	127
Rates	..	..	..	..	1.19	1.29	1.35	1.49	1.53

DEATHS FROM CANCER.

FIGURES FOR LAST 20 YEARS.

Year.	No. of Deaths.		Year.	No. of Deaths.	
1918	57	} 308	1928	81	} 465
1919	53		1929	77	
1920	83		1930	95	
1921	56		1931	105	
1922	59		1932	107	
1923	64	} 389	1933	102	} 578
1924	69		1934	110	
1925	99		1935	114	
1926	81		1936	125	
1927	76		1937	127	

SCHEME FOR RADIUM TREATMENT OF CANCER CASES.

Following recommendations of the Ministry of Health (Circular 1276) the Corporation of Wigan have made arrangements with the Wigan Infirmary and the Manchester and District Radium Institute for the treatment of suitable cases of cancer by radium. The Wigan Infirmary for this purpose is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre. Treatment is carried out at Manchester.

This scheme applies only to cases resident in the County Borough of Wigan.

9—TUBERCULOSIS.

ARTIFICIAL PNEUMOTHORAX.

During 1937 Artificial Pneumothorax treatment was performed in 5 new cases. 200 refills were carried out in these and other cases.

211 injections of Gold Compound were given and 109 injections of Calcium compound.

THE STAFF AT PEMBERTON HOSPITAL.

The Chief Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Superintendent.

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Officer.

Matron of Infectious Diseases Hospital is also Matron of Pemberton Hospital.

A Sister-in-charge.

Two Charge Nurses.

Three Probationer Nurses.

Domestic Staff: Cook, Kitchen Maid, House Maid, Ward Maid, Gardener and Porter.

The following table shows the number of cases admitted to Pemberton Hospital during the year:—

	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
Borough cases...	20	26	3	49
County cases ...	3	2	—	5
Total... ..	23	28	3	54

AFTER-CARE.

There is in Wigan an After-Care Committee. The objects of this Committee are briefly:—

- (1) To provide extra nourishment, mainly in the form of milk.
- (2) To help in providing extra clothing needed by patients when they go to a sanatorium; also to provide clothing for necessitous tuberculous cases at home.
- (3) To loan bedsteads, bedding, etc., where, in the opinion of the officers of the Committee, this is desirable, either for the greater comforts of the patients, or for their better isolation.
- (4) Visiting and friendly advice.
- (5) Any other help required by tuberculous persons.
- (6) To assist in educating public opinion in matters of health especially in regard to tuberculosis.

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer acts as an honorary Medical Officer to this Committee, which provides extra nourishment in the form of milk and eggs, etc., on his recommendation.

During the year 1937, 105 received milk, 24 persons were assisted with new clothing provided by the Committee; three families received clothing given by friends and members of the Committee, and one patient was loaned a bath chair.

The Dispensary makes an annual grant of £100, and the Public Assistance Committee subscribes £50 annually. An important part of the work of an After-care Committee is to help in securing suitable work for those sufficiently recovered to undertake it. The local employers have frequently found light work for tuberculous persons but of late years the light work has been done by those in receipt of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The members of the After-care Committee visit the homes of the patients and assist in educating public opinion in matters of health.

56 Disinfections of the homes of tuberculous persons were carried out during the year.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	8	8	-	-	4	1
5-	-	1	4	2	-	-	2	-
10-	-	-	3	2	-	-	2	-
15-	3	8	1	1	3	2	-	-
20-	4	6	-	1	4	9	-	-
25-	7	12	1	1	5	3	1	1
35-	9	7	-	-	8	6	-	2
45-	10	1	-	1	9	1	1	-
55-	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Total ..	36	37	18	16	31	22	10	4

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 53, against 48 in 1936, and 50 in 1935. The number of deaths from other tubercular affections is 14, against 13 in 1936 and 15 in 1935.

The rates are as follows:—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis64 per 1,000 of population.

Other Tuberculous Diseases .. .17 „ „

If taken together as tuberculous affections, we have 67 deaths, or a rate of .81 per 1,000 of the population.

The deaths occurred in the following Wards:—

Wards.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Total.
No. 1—St. George	3	1	4
No. 2—Lindsay	3	1	4
No. 3—St. Catharine	2	1	3
No. 4—St. Patrick	14	-	14
No. 5—St. Thomas	2	2	4
No. 6—Poolstock	4	-	4
No. 7—Victoria	2	1	3
No. 8—St. Andrew	10	1	11
No. 9—Swinley	4	3	7
No. 10—All Saints	3	-	3
No. 11—West Pemberton	1	-	1
No. 12—North Pemberton	2	1	3
No. 13—Central Pemberton	3	1	4
No. 14—South Pemberton	-	2	2
Totals	53	14	67

TUBERCULOSIS.**CASES NOTIFIED.**

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Pulmonary	81	80	61	60	73
Other forms of Tuberculosis	53	44	43	43	34
Total	134	124	104	103	107

DEATHS.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Phthisis	65	69	50	48	53
Other forms of Tuberculosis	15	17	15	13	14
Total	80	86	65	61	67

DEATH RATES.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Phthisis	·77	·81	·60	·57	·64
Other forms of Tuberculosis	·17	·20	·18	·15	·17
Total	·94	1·01	·78	·72	·81

				Total Cases Notified	Total Deaths
Pulmonary :—Males .. .. .	..	..	..	36	31
Females .. .. .	..	..	..	37	22
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	73	53
Non-Pulmonary :—Males .. .. .	..	..	..	18	10
Females .. .. .	..	..	..	16	4
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	34	14
Fatal Cases of Tuberculosis :—					
Notified Cases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	55
Non-notified .. .. .	..	..	..	..	12
Total deaths .. .. .	..	..	..	..	67

The ratio of non-notified deaths from Tuberculosis to notified deaths is as 12 is to 67, or 17·91% of the total.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS DURING THE PERIOD FROM THE 1st
JANUARY, 1937, TO THE 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

Formal Notifications.													
Age periods.	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis.											Total (all ages).	Total Notifications
	0—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—		
Pulmonary Males	-	-	-	-	3	4	7	9	10	3	-	36	36
Pulmonary Females ..	-	-	1	-	8	6	12	7	1	1	1	37	37
Non-pulmonary Males ..	1	8	4	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	18	18
Non-pulmonary Females ..	-	8	2	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	16	17

SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH DURING THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PERIOD, OTHERWISE THAN BY FORMAL NOTIFICATION.

Age Periods.	0—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	Total.
Pulmonary Males ..	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	4	1	-	-	10
Pulmonary Females ..	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	4
Non-Pulmonary Males ..	-	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	7
Non-Pulmonary Females..	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3

THE SOURCE OR SOURCES FROM WHICH INFORMATION AS TO THE ABOVE-MENTIONED CASES WAS OBTAINED SHOULD BE STATED BELOW :—

Source of Information.	No. of Cases.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns —from local Registrars	5	4
—transferable deaths from Registrar General	1	1
Posthumous Notifications	-	1
“ Transfers ” from other areas (other than transferable deaths)	8	4
Other Sources if any (specify)	-	-

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY
DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Diagnosis.	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				Total.				Grand Total.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A.—New Cases examined during the year (exclud- ing contacts):—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	26	30	—	—	2	4	13	8	28	34	13	8	83
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	2	3	11
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	36	13	18	112
B.—Contacts examined during the year:—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	2	1	4	7
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	11	13	14	46
C.—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as													
(a) Recovered ..	1	2	—	—	3	1	4	2	4	3	4	2	13
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dis- pensary Register as tuberculous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	55	47	26	33	161
D.—No. of Persons on Dispensary Register on Dec. 31st:—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	115	103	14	12	51	49	66	47	166	152	80	59	457
(b) Diagnosis not completed.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	2	3	11

1.	Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st	479
2.	Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years	4
3.	Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	42
4.	Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes) ..	58
5.	Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	3,636
6.	Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December	59
7.	Number of consultations with medical practitioners :	
	(a) Personal	50
	(b) Others	245
8.	Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations)	108
9.	Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes	1,865
10.	Number of	
	(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined	381
	(b) X-ray Examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	333
11.	Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a), and A (b) above. None.	
12.	Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st	122

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.

RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(A) RETURN SHOWING THE EXTENT OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT AND OBSERVATION DURING THE YEAR 1937 IN INSTITUTIONS (OTHER THAN POOR LAW INSTITUTIONS) APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

	In Insti- tutions on Jan 1.	Admitted during the year.	Dis- charged during the year.	Died in the Insti- tutions.	In Insti- tutions on Dec. 31.
No. of Doubtfully Tuberculous Cases admitted for Observation:					
Adults: M.	-	4	3	1	-
F.	-	-	-	-	-
Children	-	1	1	-	-
No. of Definitely Tuberculous Patients admitted for Treatment:					
Adults: M.	23	42	29	16	20
F.	19	51	46	8	16
Children	8	11	8	-	11
Total ..	50	104	83	24	47

(B) RETURN SHOWING THE EXTENT OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROVIDED DURING THE YEAR 1937 IN POOR LAW INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS CHARGEABLE TO THE COUNCIL.

	In Insti- tutions on Jan. 1.	Admitted during the year.	Dis- charged during the year.	Died in the Insti- tutions.	In Insti- tutions on Dec. 31.
No. of Patients suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis admitted for Treatment:					
Adults: M.	3	5	5	2	1
F.	-	8	2	5	1
Children	-	1	1	-	-
No. of Patients suffering from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis admitted for Treatment:					
Adults: M.	1	-	1	-	-
F.	-	-	-	-	-
Children	-	-	-	-	-
Total ..	4	14	9	7	2

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.

RETURN SHOWING THE IMMEDIATE RESULTS OF TREATMENT OF DEFINITELY
TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR 1937,
FROM INSTITUTIONS APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF
TUBERCULOSIS.

Classification on admission to the Institution.			Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.												TOTALS.			GRAND TOTALS.
			Under 3 months.			3—6 months.			6—12 months.			More than 12 mths.			M.	F.	Ch.	
			M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.				
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	T.B. minus.	Quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
		Not Quiescent ..	3	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	6	0	10
		Died in Institution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	T.B. plus Group 1	Quiescent	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	5
		Not Quiescent ..	4	4	-	2	4	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	6	12	-	18
		Died in Institution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	T.B. plus Group 2	Quiescent	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	3
		Not Quiescent ..	5	5	-	3	3	-	2	3	-	1	3	-	11	14	-	25
		Died in Institution	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	4
	T.B. plus Group 3	Quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Not Quiescent ..	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	-	5
		Died in Institution	4	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	7	3	-	10
	Bones & Joints.	Quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	2	3
		Not Quiescent ..	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
		Died in Institution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Abdominal.	Quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not Quiescent ..		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Died in Institution		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Organs	Quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Not Quiescent ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Died in Institution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peri-pheral Glands	Quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Not Quiescent ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Died in Institution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

RETURN SHOWING THE RESULTS OF OBSERVATION OF DOUBTFULLY
TUBERCULOUS CASES DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR 1937, FROM
INSTITUTIONS APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

[illegible]

ANNUAL RETURN showing in summary form the condition of all Patients whose case records are in the possession of the Dispensary at the end of 1937, arranged according to the years in which the patients first came under Public Medical Treatment for Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and their classification as shown on Form A.

[illegible]

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN.

(b) NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

ANNUAL RETURN showing in summary form the condition of all Patients whose case records are in the possession of the Dispensary at the end of 1937, arranged according to the years in which the Patients first came under the Public Medical Treatment, and their classification as shown on Form A.

[illegible]

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS) NOTIFIED IN 1937.

Wards.	Population, Census 1931	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other forms of Tuber'losis.	Totals
No. 1—St. George	4281	7	—	7
No. 2—Lindsay	5222	5	1	6
No. 3—St. Catharine	6929	5	3	8
No. 4—St. Patrick	8571	5	7	12
No. 5—St. Thomas	4182	4	3	7
No. 6—Poolstock	4774	3	2	5
No. 7—Victoria	4747	5	—	5
No. 8—St. Andrew	14083	15	5	20
No. 9—Swinley	7880	7	1	8
No. 10—All Saints	2756	6	1	7
No. 11—West Pemberton..	3740	2	1	3
No. 12—North	6605	—	—	—
No. 13—Central	6129	7	6	13
No. 14—South	5458	2	4	6
Totals	85,357	73	34	107

RESULTS OF SUNLIGHT TREATMENT, 1937.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

DISEASE	Under Treat- ment 1st Jan., 1937	New Cases	DISCHARGED			Ceased to Attend	Under Treat- ment 31st Dec. 1937.
			Much Im- proved	Im- proved	Sta- tionary		
T.B. Glands	7	22	7	—	—	5	17
Lupus	2	1	—	1	—	—	2
Bones and Joints	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
T.B. Abdomen	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	10	24	7	2	1	5	19

NOTIFIED CASES ON REGISTER AT 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

WARD	Pulmonary					Non-Pulmonary					Grand Total
	Adults		Children under 16.		Total	Adults		Children under 16.		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		
St. George's ..	7	2	—	1	10	3	1	1	—	5	15
Lindsay ..	6	6	—	—	12	4	1	—	3	8	20
St. Catharine ..	11	10	1	1	23	4	3	4	4	15	38
St. Patrick ..	15	12	3	2	32	7	9	5	7	28	60
St. Thomas ..	9	5	—	1	15	4	2	4	2	12	27
Poolstock ..	6	7	1	1	15	4	3	3	3	13	28
Victoria ..	8	9	1	—	18	6	2	7	3	18	36
St. Andrew ..	19	23	3	2	47	8	12	3	7	40	87
Swinley ..	11	6	—	—	17	2	2	2	3	9	26
All Saints ..	5	3	—	1	9	1	—	1	1	3	12
Pemberton W.	5	8	1	2	16	2	4	5	3	14	30
Pemberton N.	7	6	2	1	16	2	3	4	2	11	27
Pemberton C.	5	4	—	—	9	2	3	9	6	20	29
Pemberton S.	1	2	2	—	5	2	4	8	3	17	22
Totals ..	115	103	14	12	244	51	49	66	47	213	457

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

During the year 1937 there was no necessity to take action under these Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Section 62.

There was no necessity to take action during the year under Section 62, Public Health Act, 1925.

10.—VENEREAL DISEASES.

The figures below show the work done in 1937:—

	Borough.		County.		Others.	
	1936.	1937.	1936.	1937.	1936.	1937.
(a) Number of persons from each area dealt with during the year at or in connection with the Out-Patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from:—						
Syphilis	16	16	..	22	15	..
Soft Chancre	—	—	..	—	—	..
Gonorrhœa	58	42	..	80	61	..
Conditions other than Venereal	34	40	..	63	56	..
Total	108	98	..	165	132	..
(b) Total number of attendances of all patients residing in each area ..						
	5059	4011	..	7471	7063	..
(c) Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of all patients residing in each area						
	139	66	..	151	132	..

FIGURES FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
New cases	306	287	283	273	237
Total Attendances at V.D. Clinic ..	11155	11814	12268	12648	11184
In-patient days	147	184	286	290	198

II.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

	1933.	1934	1935	1936.	1937.
ATTENDANCES AT CLINICS:—					
Babies	11755	13126	12954	13509	13916
Primary Visits of Babies	1262	1293	1294	1275	1234
Expectant Mothers Weekly Clinic	730	855	1030	1100	1012
Special Clinic	—	118	118	105	82
PEMBERTON CLINIC ..	—	—	—	117	312
MATERNAL MORTALITY:—					
Deaths	9	7	7	4	4
Rate	6.37	3.86	4.91	2.62	2.81
Births	1415	1467	1425	1445	1354
VISITS PAID TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS By Health Visitors					
	489	550	495	457	570

DENTAL TREATMENT.

The following table shows the dental work carried out during the year 1937, in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

Babies Treated.	Dressing, &c.	Extractions.	Fillings.	Mothers Treated.	Extractions.	Fillings.	Scaling, &c.	Dentures.
35	16	27	12	111	118	12	36	3

CHILDREN'S ACT.

On the 1st January there were five nursed out children on the register. On the 31st December there were eight on the register. The Health Visitors who are also Infant Life Protection Visitors paid 71 visits to premises where children were being nursed out. There were no complaints.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.

	WIGAN CENTRE.		PEMBERTON CLINIC.
	Weekly Clinic.	Special Clinic.	
Number of cases attending Clinic during the year	400	66	—
Total number of attendances ..	1012	82	312
Cases referred to St. Mary's Hospital	—	17	—
Cases admitted to St. Mary's Hospital.. .. .	—	15	—

The table of infantile mortality for 1937 shows that more than half of the deaths under one year occurred in the first four weeks of life—67 of the total 122. Over one-third were under one week old—44 of the total 122. Of the 67 deaths under one month old 30 were due to premature birth and 3 to debility, marasmus, etc.

SUMMARY OF VISITS PAID BY THE HEALTH VISITORS DURING THE YEAR 1937.

No. of primary visits to births	1407
„ visits to infants under one year	5535
„ „ infants over one year and under two years	3548
„ „ infants over two and under three years..	2630
„ „ infants over three and under four years	2168
„ „ infants over four and under five years ..	1683
„ „ expectant mothers	570
„ „ cases of Abortion	38
„ „ cases of Measles	259
„ „ cases of Pneumonia, &c.	80
„ „ cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5
„ „ re deaths under one year	89
„ „ still births	60
„ „ to midwives	309
„ other visits	149

The following is a summary of the attendances at the Clinics during the year 1937.

Clinic.	Children		Total.	Mothers.	Expect. mothers.	Primary cases.	Cases examined by medical attendant.
	under 12 mths.	over 12 mths.					
Central	1976	1016	2992	2839	1012	356	2417
Scholes	2123	975	3098	2967	-	232	2000
Billinge Road ..	1993	856	2849	2727	312	228	1743
Worsley Mesnes	1052	649	1701	1569	-	142	1299
Woodhouse Lane.	1968	1308	3276	3095	-	261	1819
Totals ..	9112	4804	13916	13197	1324	1219	9278

Investigations, as requested by the Maternal Mortality Committee of the Ministry of Health, are made into all maternal deaths by the Medical Officer of Health, who interviews the general medical practitioner in charge of the cases. Confidential reports of such investigations are submitted to the Ministry without giving particulars of identification.

The Medical Officer in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare makes investigations in each case of Puerperal Fever notified.

SCHOOLS FOR MOTHERS.

239 classes were held during the year 1937, and 2,290 attendances were made by mothers.

Dr. Isobel M. Smith spends two-thirds of her time in Maternity and Child Welfare Work.

The following Centres are open from 2 p.m. to 4-30 p.m. on the days mentioned in the table below, for mothers and babies, and expectant mothers—

Centre.	Days open.
Wigan Central Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street	Tuesday and Thursday of each week. School for Mothers on Wednesday.
Pemberton Clinic, 15, Billinge Road..	Friday of each week. School for Mothers on Thursday. Antenatal Clinic on alternate Mondays.
Jackson's Square, Scholes	Monday of each week. School for Mothers on Friday afternoons.
Wesleyan Chapel, Worsley Mesnes ..	Wednesday each week, and also School for Mothers on Monday afternoons.
St. Andrew's Mission Room, Woodhouse Lane.	Tuesday each week. School for mothers on Wednesday.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATE TOGETHER WITH THE DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE AND THE DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS IN EACH WARD IN THE BOROUGH FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Ward.	Population 1931 Census.	No. of Births (A) Notified.	Birth Rate.	No. of Deaths of Infants under One Year.	Infantile. Death-rate per 1,000 Births.
No. 1.—St. George	4281	55	12.84	6	109
No. 2.—Lindsay	5222	72	13.78	9	125
No. 3.—St. Catharine	6929	91	13.13	2	21
No. 4.—St. Patrick	8571	133	15.51	15	112
No. 5.—St. Thomas	4183	74	17.92	12	162
No. 6.—Poolstock	4775	77	16.12	3	38
No. 7.—Victoria	4745	92	19.38	6	65
No. 8.—St. Andrew's	14085	281	19.95	28	99
No. 9.—Swinley	7880	81	10.27	6	74
No. 10.—All Saints	2750	20	7.27	1	50
No. 11.—West Pemberton	3740	39	10.42	8	205
No. 12.—North Pemberton	6605	102	15.44	11	107
No. 13.—Central Pemberton	6129	109	16.15	8	73
No. 14.—South Pemberton	5462	78	14.28	7	89
Wigan	83190 (B)	1354 (C)	16.27	122	90
125 County Boroughs and Large Towns.. ..	—	—	14.9	—	62
England and Wales	—	—	14.9	—	58

(A) Does not include transferable births.

(B) Estimated population, 1st July, 1937.

(C) Total births corrected by transfers.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1937 NETT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.
Name of District—Wigan County Borough.

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Cause of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 3 months	3 months & under 6 months	6 months & under 9 months	9 months & under 12 m'ths	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes—Certified ..	44	12	7	4	67	20	16	13	6	122
Uncertified ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tubercular Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Abdominal Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis ..	..	1	1	..	2	1	2	1	..	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	..	1	..	1	2	7	4	7	4	24
Diarrhoea ..	..	..	1	..	1	..	6	2	..	9
Enteritis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suffocation, overlying ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Atelectasis ..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Congenital Malformations ..	3	2	1	..	6	3	1	..	..	10
Premature Birth ..	23	3	3	1	30	2	1	..	..	33
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ..	2	..	..	1	3	4	1	1	..	9
Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at Birth ..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Other Causes ..	12	5	1	..	18	2	1	2	1	24
TOTAL ..	44	12	7	4	67	20	16	13	6	122

The following Table shows particulars of Notifications of Births received, which were notified by Doctors and Midwives :—

	<i>Doctors and Parents.</i>	<i>Midwives.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of Births notified	65	1,278	1,343
Percentage	—	—	—
No. of Medical Aid Forms received	—	519	519
No. of Still-births notified ..	18	55	73

TABLE SHOWING METHOD OF FEEDING OF INFANTS UNDER ONE
YEAR OF AGE WHO DIED DURING 1937.

SAID TO BE—

- 35 Entirely Breast-fed.
- 12 Partly Breast-fed.
- 6 Dried Milk.
- 1 Condensed Milk.
- 18 Cow's Milk.
- 25 No feeding (lived 1-2 days only).
- 25 Not known.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) REGULATIONS, 1926.

The scheme for the treatment of cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia was commenced in May, 1929 when a circular containing the following instructions was sent to all the Medical Practitioners of Wigan :—

1. If a practitioner desires a second opinion on such a case he may have the services of either Dr. Berry or Dr. Graham, after notifying the Medical Officer of Health to that effect.
2. If hospital treatment is desired, arrangements have been made with Wigan Infirmary to receive such cases whenever possible ; the request for such treatment to be made to the Medical Officer of Health.
3. Home nursing will be provided if available, on application to the Medical Officer of Health.
4. Bacteriological examinations can be arranged by application as above.

CASES OF PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA NOTIFIED IN 1937.

	No. of cases notified.	Treated at				Result.
		Home.	Wigan Infirmary.	Billinge Infirmary	Private Nursing Home.	
Puerperal Fever	1	—	1	—	—	1 Recovered.
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	2	1	2	—	All Recovered.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of children under one year is 122, or 90 per 1,000 births, and of children over one year and under five years 161, or 1·93 per 1,000 of the population.

In 1936 there were 119 deaths under one year, a rate of 82 per 1,000.

An analysis of these 122 deaths show that they may be grouped under the following headings :—

Congenital Debility, Malformation, and Premature

Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Diarrhoea and Enteritis			..	..	..	..	9
Bronchitis..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Other causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	31

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

This figure has been low for the last two years, namely 2·62 in 1936, and 2·81 in 1937 per 1,000 births.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES' SERVICE.

In accordance with the Midwives Act, 1936, the Council appointed twelve full-time Municipal Midwives who began duty on 30th July, 1937. All of them had previously been practising independent midwives in the Borough.

The midwives work in groups of three, each group being located in a definite area in the town. This system is necessary to provide for relief work and off duty time.

The number of cases attended by the Municipal Midwives during the period 30th July to 31st December, 1937, was 316.

At time of writing nine of the independent midwives have surrendered their certificates and there are now twenty-eight midwives registered to practise on the local Midwives Register, including the 12 Municipal Midwives.

A most important feature of the scheme has been the appointment of a whole-time Supervisor of Midwives. She keeps in close touch with each midwife, advises her when she is in difficulty over her cases and sees that her equipment is maintained in good order. She also arranges the off duty time and relief duty in each group of midwives. Also she gives instruction in and supervises the making up of the sterile maternity packets which are being used by all the Municipal Midwives.

The main purpose of the scheme is to improve the standard of midwifery and in so far that the Municipal Midwives are working under the close supervision of a nurse who is herself a highly experienced midwife thoroughly up-to date in modern methods, the general standard of the midwives' work will become higher and more uniformly good. Abnormalities will be detected earlier and the patients referred for medical advice and treatment. The Refresher Courses which are now compulsory for the midwives will also help in this direction.

On the whole the Scheme seems to have been quite well received. It is being supported by the general practitioners and its popularity with the public is likely to increase.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Year	Cases.		Vision Unimpair'd	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness
	No. Notified	Treated			
		At Home In Hospital			
1937	1	—	1	—	—
1936	1	1	—	1	—
1935	2	2	—	2	—
1934	3	2	1	3	—
1933	2	—	2	1	—

The following instructions are being carried out by midwives :—

- 1.—As soon as the head is born, thoroughly cleanse the eyelids and eyelashes with clean swabs, and warm boracic lotion, using separate swabs for each eye.
- 2.—When the baby is born, put one drop of a one per cent. solution of silver nitrate in the hollow between the nose and the eye, open the lids, and tilt the head and see that the fluid runs on to the surface of the eyeball. Repeat the same process with the other eye. Silver nitrate solution may be obtained free of charge by Midwives by applying to the Health Offices.

3.—Allow a few minutes to elapse and then swab with warm boracic lotion, using separate swabs as before.

4.—Don't use the silver nitrate solution again in the same case.

Every case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum is visited at once by a Health Visitor, a smear taken of discharge, if any, to be examined for gonococci or other organisms, and a report made to the Medical Officer of Health.

Cases are visited until cured.

RESULTS OF SUNLIGHT TREATMENT, 1937.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.

Disease	Under Treatm't 1st Jan., 1937	New Cases	Discharged			Ceased to Attend	Under Treatm't 31st Dec., 1937
			Cured	Much Improved	Transfer to Hospital		
Marasmus	—	2	—	—	—	1	1
Rickets..	2	15	1	2	1	6	7
Debility..	3	8	2	2	1	4	2
Others ..	1	9	1	2	—	4	3
	6	34	4	6	2	15	13

WELFARE OF THE BLIND.

In June, 1933, Dr. Duthie, a Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, was appointed for the examination of persons under the Blind Persons Act, and he examined 53 persons during 1937.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN DURING 1937.

<i>Case No.</i>	<i>Date.</i>	<i>Nature of Case.</i>	<i>Results.</i>
1.	May 3.	Contravention of Public Health Acts.	Case adjourned.
2.	June 10.	Contravention of Shops Act.	Fined £1.
3.	June 10.	Contravention of Butchers' Closing Order.	Ordered to pay costs.

